

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Sammons to U. S. National

Any change in the presidency of a banking institution like the United States National bank of Portland is an event of importance. As the largest bank in the state, maintaining 26 branches over the state and owning one bank in Vancouver, Wash., the choice of a new executive becomes a matter of concern to many thousands of customers and to the several communities in which the bank operates. That the choice should fall to Edward C. Sammons, already prominent in Oregon affairs, makes the event doubly significant.

The changes among the bank's officers announced Friday include the retirement of Paul S. Dick as president to become chairman of the board of directors, the retirement of A. M. Wright as first vice president, the election of Mr. Sammons as president and promotion of A. L. Mills from vice president to first vice president. These changes assure a continuation of competence in the direction of the bank's affairs. Mr. Dick has made an excellent record in guiding the destinies of the bank, particularly through the troubled banking conditions of the 20's and 30's. Reasons of health are understood to have prompted his retirement.

Sammons does not come to the bank as a stranger. He was vice president when he left in 1928 to become associated with T. H. Banfield in the Iron Fireman Manufacturing co. and has remained a director. His great capacity for leadership has been evidenced in many undertakings, both industrial and civic. He will bring to his new position first the full confidence of the business community, and second a rare combination of vision, of energy, of practicality and of winning personality that will be felt in the bank and through the state.

Mr. Mills is a trained bank executive, with a broad understanding of problems of finance, whose judgment has been relied on in determining bank policies with relation to current trends in banking and finance. He should prove a very valuable junior officer to President Sammons as he was to Mr. Dick.

The change in financial conditions is readily seen in the growth of bank deposits. The United States National on its last call showed deposits of \$472,674,000. Five years previous, in the spring of 1940, its deposits were only \$138,015,000. Part of the increase is due to increase in the number of branches (Ladd & Bush was acquired later), but chiefly the increase is due to business expansion and to price and wage inflation. The responsibility for managing deposits of this magnitude from thousands of depositors is one not to be lightly considered. We understand that Mr. Sammons was reluctant to leave his former fine connection with Iron Fireman but yielded to the persuasion of fellow directors in part because of a sense of community obligation and because of the challenge of opportunity for constructive service which always has characterized his endeavors. The whole state will view his succession with a feeling of pride and satisfaction.

Bid to San Francisco

Even Russophiles must admit that the USSR is a bit difficult. To the big powwow in San Francisco will be attended by President Roosevelt (et ux), Secretary Stettinius and by Foreign Minister Anthony Eden and Prime Minister W. L. MacKenzie King, Russia is sending, not Marshal Stalin or Foreign Minister Molotov, but Ambassador Grymko. And now Moscow insists that the Poland provisional government, which is still its old Lublin committee, receive an invitation to the conference!

At Yalta it was agreed that the provisional government should be reorganized to include all elements in Poland, but the British and American ambassadors working in Moscow find that Russia disagrees with their interpretation of the agreement, so no reorganization of the Polish government has taken place. It is embarrassing to Washington to invite to the party a government it has never recognized, so the request has been turned down.

So long accustomed to single harness the USSR finds it hard to team up with other nations, even when they are trying to be friends.

British at Munster

So the British are at the gates of Munster, or perhaps they have captured the city by this time. That indeed must be humiliating to Adolf Hitler. For Munster was Hitler's choice as the city in which the peace, his peace, would be written.

Munster was chosen out of his moody attitude.

Editorial Comment

MAY ALSO BE USEFUL AFTER THE WAR
If you could wander into a number of valley homes in the evening, you would not have to be surprised if you heard heads of the homes haltingly exchanging some of the more simple Spanish phrases, and in not a few instances, the more simple phrases the better the exchange. This new feature is one direct result of the war, which not only drained away many orchard workers, but resulted in the importation of many Mexicans to do part of the work which our fighting men had no recourse but to abandon.

Only a few of those who are now taking Spanish lessons will keep up "the conversation" when the war is over and our own people are back in the valley—and may it be soon. But even the few phrases they will learn will prove of use to them when they have Mexican help on their orchards.

There is another thought, which might justify further study of the Spanish language, which is largely spoken and not so largely read in South America. When the war is over, and travel is again something to be planned instead of dreamed about, some of us may decide to visit Mexico and even farther south, and when that day comes, Spanish learned now and remembered will prove of great value and entertainment.

vism. Munster was the city in which the Peace of Westphalia, ending the Thirty Years' war, was signed in 1648. Hitler regarded that peace as responsible for the fragmentation of old Germany and wanted to make the new peace of Munster one of complete reversal, one that would not only solidify the reich, but bring all of western Europe under his "new order."

The old townhall in which the Peace of Westphalia was signed, still was standing up to the time of the present war. How much damage it has suffered from aerial bombings has not been reported. The meeting of the ambassadors and princes who wrote the peace in 1648 took place in the Friedens Saal of the townhall. On its walls have hung through the centuries paintings of the men who took part in the proceedings which made the hall famous.

Now the British have Munster in their clutches and der Fuehrer Hitler is a badly frightened and speechless rabbit. He knows he will dictate no peace in Munster or anywhere else. He knows that he is bringing on Germany the thousand years of doom as alternative to the thousand years of victory which he promised. Rare indeed have been the instances of such complete reversal of fortune. When Hitler made his pronouncement about a peace in Munster he was ruler of all western Europe; now he is very nearly a fugitive, with the hot breath of vengeance blowing on his neck.

The peace of Munster . . . yes, Adolf, history can be remorselessly ironical.

Pullmans of the Skies

A few days ago the big new Consolidated "Constellation" flew from Los Angeles to Miami in eight hours. This huge aircraft with capacity of 204 passengers is designed for postwar civilian travel. Already Pan-American Airways has ordered 15 of these ships.

The dimensions of the plane are startling. Its wingspan of 230 ft. is more than twice that of a Liberator bomber. The plane weighs 320,000 lbs. and is 12 times the size of the standard twin-motored planes now in use on commercial routes. Its cruising speed is 342 miles an hour, and is expected to make the flight between New York and London in nine hours. The new planes will have six engines, mounted on the trailing edge of the wing, which will use pusher-type propellers.

It may be that the cost of airplane equipment will work to eliminate some of the concerns now clamoring for franchise rights on new air routes over the world. No longer is it possible to start an air route with a second-hand army relic of a plane. Investment to provide a working fleet of modern aircraft will run into so much money that a lot of competition will be scared out. This fact in itself may help to solve the vexing question now being considered by congress and the civil aeronautics board on how many operators should be permitted to fly in world commerce. Necessarily the number will be very few because of the amount of capital required.

It is evident that airplane companies are thinking in large terms of their postwar world. And why shouldn't they? If they can get flying rights over the world, they can, with their marvellous speed and comfort, attract patronage on a steadily expanding scale.

The Dalles Chronicle refers to the premature peace celebration in 1918 on November 10. Wrong date. The false armistice was on November 7.

Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR ANALYST

The fury of the Allied attack east of the Rhine has mounted steadily for a week.

If the enemy had hoped the gigantic offensive might begin to show signs of slowing because of extended supply lines and a swiftly expanding battle front area, he was disillusioned yesterday.

It was disclosed that the new Fifteenth army, commanded by Lt. Gen. Leonard T. Gerow, under wraps for weeks, had come into action.

The balance of manpower, already heavily against the Germans, thereby increased. During the last week the Wehrmacht has been losing men by capture alone, not including tens of thousands killed and still more wounded, at the rate of about two divisions a day on the western front.

The exact position of the Fifteenth in the battle line was not disclosed immediately, but it is part of the Twelfth army group which contains the First and Third American armies, now deep in Germany. It is possible that the Fifteenth or elements thereof are needed to handle the security situation behind the stabbing spearheads of the other two armies. These latter groups have advanced in such swift strides that pockets of German forces, some of them probably of uncomfortable size, have been left to the rear. One of the initial assignments of Gerow's men may be to clean up these areas and secure the communication and transport lines to the advancing elements.

The spectacular eastward march of the Allies—who have six armies east of the Rhine and at least one spearhead within 165 miles of Berlin—indirectly turns interest to the Russian front.

An attack on that front at the point closest to Berlin has been expected for some time. That time may be near. The Soviet army now may be able to divert a substantial number of divisions from the south as well as from the north to concentrate them for a frontal assault on the outer defenses of the reich capital.

As the week grew to a close there were interesting stirrings on the long quiet front in Italy. Nazi artillery threw a quantity of shells into Allied positions. In this was seen an indication that the German defenders had spotted activities behind or in the Allied positions which alarmed the Nazi command. It is possible they seek to upset what they believe is a mustering for a major offensive.

The advance of Russian forces across the Austrian border brings the eastern ally that much closer to Italy, thereby further increasing the general threat to the German garrison holding the base of the peninsula. Meanwhile, the Nazis can have no assurance that the French forces maintaining a watch along the Franco-Italian border might not venture a stab through the mountain barrier at the west.



1945 Harvest Hand

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, March 31 — The best guess here is that the early part of May should do for the Germans.

When General Eisenhower said the Nazi armies had been whipped, he did not mean exterminated. Two days after his statement, they were still putting up a blockade of successful resistance in three sectors particularly, including even in Remagen bridge-head area.



Paul Mallon

Their army is as a whole hopelessly whipped, but military judges here who have not been wrong often in this war—consider it four or five weeks away from unit destruction.

Eisenhower also said he expected the enemy finally to retreat to a line covering the northern sea and land boundaries of Germany with a front running down to an east-west line on a parallel of Hanover, or a retreat into the southeastern mountain strongholds. This would cover Bremen, Hanover, Emden and many German cities, even if not Berlin.

But the Germans since have concentrated the bulk of their remaining force north of the Ruhr river. We got across easily here, but both the British and our Ninth armies ran into trouble, and the going was slow for several days.

In view of this heaviest concentration on the northern extremity, it appeared the German generals were heading back toward the northern alternative. The line in the south was thinly held and when our armored columns had cut through and easily flanked the German divisions there and in front of Harum and Hanover, making their west bank positions untenable, Eisenhower was able to make his statement.

But the thinness of the line plus the grand scale demolition of the Nazi railroad system and the heavy Russian drive upon Vienna made it unlikely that

many Nazis except those on the Italian front will be found in the mountains in the end, although this is the locale most widely heralded for the last stand.

It was apparent also that unless a miracle could repair the railroads and furnish troops from nowhere (or the Russian front) they could only make the fighting bitter in spots.

The Russian drive toward Vienna was in good force and promises success from the outset. They have a policy of not announcing their drives until after they have been assured of success.

A northern attack was put under way several days ago, but its size was not known here at this writing. What was needed, of course, was a large scale Russian push into Germany, particularly in the Berlin sector. It might prove dangerous both to our expectations and the Russians if this drive fell short of sufficient power.

Common speculation now accepts the theory that the island-seizing we are doing around Japan means an early full scale offensive upon the Tokyo homeland rather than upon the China coast. But it is known the army air force considers it entirely feasible for us to seize and maintain air and sea bases on the China coast without a full-scale invasion of China.

The next blow therefore possibly may be toward establishment of these bases. All we need for that is sea-and-land air power, and a portion of the fleet plus relatively small landing force units.

Invasion of Japan would be a major all-out operation. Any news of China landings might well be scrutinized with this reservation in mind.

The cleanup in the Philippines is now nearly complete and MacArthur's troops soon may be available for further action, if a large number are not already there. We have seized 14 Philippine islands. Jap resistance continues on only three—Cebu, Panay and Luzon (three different fronts on Luzon, north, east and south of Manila.)

"THE YOUNG IDEA" By Mossler



"Frankly, Beverly, that 'blase routine' did a flacco!"

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

"SLEEP IN THE SUN," by Alan Moody (Houghton Mifflin; \$2).

This gentle novel is about Mexicans who have settled in San Marque canyon in California. It's a place out of this world, in the slang expression, and certainly out of these United States. The people love, but short of ecstasy; they hate, but stop at name-calling; they are ambitious, but only for the slightest things; they work, but no more than they absolutely have to.

They drink, too. But they don't get drunk. They get intoxicated in the nobler sense, and the sympathetic author makes you share their intoxication. Though they live in the 1940s, they are pretty much eternal.

It is perhaps a series of short stories—rather than a novel. The incidents are bound together by the single scene and by the principal characters, Jose Mercado, his wife Mama Chula and her aged mother. With them should be grouped Lupe Mendoza, the sheep woman; Mrs. Biatriz Garcia, who sells the wood red wine; and the sun which warms them all.

It's surprising how little happens yet how much that little matters. The Mercados go to town to sell their produce; Mama Chula cleans house; they buy a "radio speaking machine;" they slander a neighbor and then repent; they fall in love with a foundling; they go to a barbecue and turn it hilariously into a fiesta.

Moody doesn't observe these foreigners with scientific detachment; he doesn't write about them condescendingly, either, though that is a common offense of the novelist who goes slumming. His people are as real, as worth befriending, as the high and mighty of this land, at least in his naive eyes; he builds them up to their full stature as humans. We may not approve of them, but we can't help liking them.

This is, I believe, Moody's first book. He has, however, written several plays produced in his adopted state. He himself now sleeps in the sun; he died last year.

The Safety Valve LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

Calvary Baptist Church
1230 S. Liberty St.
Salem, Oregon

To the Editor:

The YMCA kindly provided headquarters for the recent city-wide church survey. That made it necessary for me to spend a good deal of time at the Y during the past month.

Naturally, having been conducting similar campaigns in many cities for some years, I have become quite familiar with YMCA's the country over.

I have never found the YMCA so fully a hub of the city as in Salem. I have been surprised and delighted at the important place occupied in city life by Mr. Kells and his institution. I feel that the least I can do as a newcomer is to pass along a word of well-merited praise.

Sincerely,
Charles Durden

Russell L. Dixon AT THE FRONT!

By Lewis Hawkins (Substituting for Kenneth L. Dixon)

WITH THE U. S. SEVENTH ARMY. —(P)— After weeks of fighting in the rugged, wooded Hardt mountains, the 42nd tank division nickname should be changed from "Rainbow Division" to "Rainbow Mountain Division" or perhaps "Rainbow Mule Division."

About 150 battlemule mules helped fight the war up and down the roller-coaster slopes and these four-footed veterans of Italian campaigns sold themselves to their new chauffeurs.

Pvt. Charlie Avez from Russellville, Ark., where mules are mules, said, "Jucko is a fine mule—gentlest animal I ever ran across."

Pfc. Raymond Luhman handled horses and mules back on his farm home near Nstoma, Kans., but he never had to maneuver the critters on the perpendicular before and lamented, "It's just about impossible to keep their packs on going up some of these straight-up slopes. If I don't figure out a way right quick this mule's going to lose confidence in me."

Pvt. Richard Ramler of Ludlow, Ky., reported, "I find this Joe as easy to handle as a jeep except for one thing—he don't mind mortars, he don't mind artillery, and he likes rifle fire but he's got a terrible complex about bridges. Otherwise this mountain work is his dish."

Staff Sgt. Robert Leathers of Cispine, Ill., is going to be very popular with army humorists.

Battlemule Mules Help U. S. Rainbow Division Fight War

The 45th division non com had been acting as platoon guide, platoon sergeant, and platoon leader for several days with Pfc. Allan Conway of California, as his only helper.

One night Conway didn't wake Leathers for the night shift, letting him sleep through. So the next morning the sergeant prepared breakfast for the private and served it to him in bed.

"G" and "H" companies of the Third division's Seventh regiment wanted to have a party with plenty of girls so that each man could have a dancing partner. But it's difficult in small French towns to get that many girls out at night.

So company commanders Lt. Eugene Bacon of Memphis, Tenn., and Lt. Clarence Grant of Minneapolis, Minn., had the town crier announce the big event in the courthouse and invite everyone.

Sgt. Leonard Scardinia of Springfield, Ohio, and Henry Himmerick of Rogers, N. D., rustled up plenty of show and Sgt. Mike Kusiak of Upper Merionistown, Pa., and Clall Clark of Litchfield, Ky., baked 2000 doughnuts. Word of these preparations spread around.

On the big night the infantrymen found plenty of girls three-plus most of the town's mamas and papas, grandmothers and grandfathers, baby sisters and cats.

It wasn't just the way the boys had figured it but a good time was had by all.

IT SEEMS TO ME (Continued from page 1)

The Covenanters had to hold their services in the fields and often at night because they were dissenters from the established church. In order to make sure that only those eligible to partake of the holy communion were admitted to these nightly meetings to Kēns were passed out which had to be handed to the elder for admission to the communion service. Time passed; the Covenanters were no longer persecuted, but the use of tokens persisted. Many came to America—and brought the tokens with them.

On one occasion, in free America when one of the churches of the Scottish descent had a communion scheduled, some one forgot to bring the tokens. It created quite a little concern—what should they do? The communion table was spread, but the tokens were missing. What did they do? They went ahead without the tokens, and never used them again. They woke up to the fact that use of tokens was only slavish custom.

Mary Antin, in her book "The Promised Land," tells of how in her orthodox Jewish home the old custom had been observed of keeping the light always burning. One night it went out or was put out—and nothing happened, a fact which had a great, emancipating effect on her.

The older generation is forever scolding at the younger for abandoning sacred altars. But what is happening may be merely the adaption of the younger generation to new conditions. It is very easy for the human mind to conclude that its own ideas, its own customs and beliefs in the field of religion are in fact the eternal verities. Yet sometimes, as with Mary on the original Easter, what they are clinging to is merely a dead body or an empty grave. They are blind to the fact that the Christ whom they love "is risen, as he said" and that his religion should always be a living reality.

Practical Religion

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

All of us search for keys which will open the doors to abundant living. Some try the key of influence, others try the key of hard work. Some try the key of industry, others try a Phi Beta Kappa key.

But the ages teach that there is only one way to open the doors to abundant living. The only key to open these doors, to

County War Chests Raise \$2,617,952.65

The sum of \$2,617,952.65 was raised by the 36 county war chests in their campaigns last fall, according to a report made by Irl S. McSherry, executive director of the Oregon War Chest at a meeting of the board of directors held in Salem recently.

Of this amount, \$1,335,024.51 has been allocated to the Oregon War Chest and will be used in supporting eight state agencies and the 22 agencies of the National War Fund, including the USO, United Seamen's Service and the War Prisoners Aid society. The balance of the money raised, McSherry said, will be applied largely to local agencies in the various counties.

McSherry reported that 34 counties exceeded their total budgets during the campaign and only two failed to make it, namely, Douglas and Jackson. Those were short only small amounts.

It was announced that another campaign will be conducted during the month of October this year. Plans are being made now for the campaign, although the amount to be raised has not been established as yet.

Seven Surplus Planes Arrive at Troutdale

TROUTDALE, Ore., March 31 —(P)— Seven primary training planes landed at the airport here yesterday as the reconstruction finance corporation began the all-time greatest sale of used airplanes.

A considerable number of planes will be brought to the RFC sales center by Western Skyways. Three thousand primary trainers are to be sold but the number allotted locally is not known. The seven came from Thunderbird field, Ariz., as army surplus. Six of the pilots were formerly WASPs and included Virginia Hill of Seattle.

Test, Immunization Clinic Set for Woodburn

A Schick test and immunization clinic is to be held in Woodburn by the Marion county Public Health association on Tuesday from 10 to 12 and 1:30 to 3 p.m. Immunization against diphtheria and smallpox will be given to all children, and infants nine months or over. A "booster" dose is recommended every three years for children up to 12 years who have been protected against diphtheria previously.

Use the same figure of speech, is the Master key—the way of Christ, the way of service, of love, of self-sacrifice, and of unshakable faith.

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