

The Oregon Statesman

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

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

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Member of the Associated Press

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Reclamation's Value

While we of the west are familiar with irrigation projects and their value in the production of wealth, perhaps even we do not have adequate appreciation of the magnitude of the returns which have been made on our investments in reclamation projects. Therefore the following summary, prepared by the reclamation bureau, will be both informative and interesting, and should be quite convincing of the importance of maintaining and extending our program of land reclamation. We quote:

The Bureau of Reclamation projects in the 15 western states have contributed to the total national wealth through irrigation and power developments as follows:

1. Through crop returns which add to the Nation's purchasing power. The accumulated gross value of completed irrigation projects from 1906 to 1944, inclusive, was \$4,007,382,000, on conservative reports. The cost to the Federal Government of irrigation facilities actually in operation at the end of 1944 was slightly in excess of \$318,000,000, of which more than \$87,000,000 has already been repaid by the water users under the operation of the reclamation law. Thus the increased purchasing power accruing to the Nation from operating irrigation projects was approximately 18 times the cost of the irrigation works. The 1944 gross crop value alone was \$411,000,000, or 129 per cent of the cost of the irrigation facilities serving them.

2. Through irrigation development, 4,665,000 acres of land have been either reclaimed from barren desert or provided a protective supplemental water supply. The current value of this land with a full reliable water right is estimated at \$750,000,000. This land is taxable by the local governments, and thus represents a powerful support to them.

3. Through providing a steady demand for the services of skilled and professional workers and for other nonfarm workers in servicing the reclamation farms and the farmer's families, 338 cities, towns, and villages with a combined population of 906,343 persons have developed on or immediately adjacent to these Federal reclamation projects. The estimated value of this village and urban property is estimated at \$1,300,000,000.

4. Through extended purchasing power. The value of extended benefits accruing to the Nation from basic production in agriculture is variously estimated at three and one-half to seven times the return to the farmer. Based on the least optimistic figures, these extended benefits which are evidenced in the supporting towns, villages, and cities are placed at \$1,435,000,000 in 1944.

5. Through the value of reliable low-cost power. The installed power generating capacity of Bureau projects in 1944 was 2,440,275 kilowatts. Through the 1944 fiscal year, the power production from Bureau projects amounted to 13,500,000 kilowatt-hours. This energy was used in cities and towns having a combined population of over 4,000,000 persons. To supply this power the Bureau has invested approximately \$400,000,000. In 1944 electric energy sales from Bureau developments aggregated \$18,902,000.

6. Through farm living values. Perhaps one of the greatest contributions of Reclamation to the Nation is found in the 91,000 family-sized farms which provide desirable and healthful living for 351,000 persons. The value of farm living, including food, fuel, and shelter, to these people on Reclamation farms is about \$80,000,000 annually, which, of course, is in addition to their cash returns from crops.

Morse and Bowles

Now that Wayne Morse no longer runs with the hares he feels he can hunt with the hounds. That seems a plausible explanation of his letter to Chester Bowles of OPA urging the latter to resign. Morse was once a high man in the war labor board, another war-created agency, which endured the stings of criticism as it labored to stabilize wages. OPA, with a far more complicated job of price control, draws no charity from Morse from his own experience as a public servant. Now a senator, Morse joins the pack in outcry against OPA.

Let us see, how many administrators has OPA had? First there was Leon Henderson, the tough boy who finally threw in the towel and took private employment. Second was Prentiss Brown, named after he was defeated for reelection as senator from Michigan in 1942. Brown went in with cordial support from all sources, but he got sucked under in the swift

Editorial Comment

IS EFFICIENCY SERVED?

Every time we read of the large percentage of congressmen who are out of Washington, and junketing around the world on one mission or another, we think of such legislation as the new Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill, which is huge and complex. This chunk of legislation alone would take sustained and concentrated study by even the ablest and most seasoned legislator to examine and digest. This is only one of several tremendously important and involved legislative problems. Yet the legislators are gone.

The above-mentioned bill expands and liberalizes the social security system. It calls for extension of social security to farm and domestic workers and employees of non-profit institutions. This provision is estimated to cover about 15,000,000 additional persons, and was generally endorsed by both American political parties at the last election.

Another part of the bill provides for federal grants and loans to build a \$950,000,000 system of hospitals and health centers. Another would boost other grants for increased federal public health service, and a chain of insurance programs—including health, unemployment, temporary disability, retirement and insurance for survivors. The bill would take unemployment insurance from the states, and liberalize payments. It would raise old-age pensions. Senator Robert Wagner of New York, one of the bill's prime sponsors, thinks an original eight per cent pay-roll tax would get the program started, although help from the treasury would probably be necessary later.

But we are still wondering if the best interests of the people, confronted with the problems of the future as reflected in this and other important legislation, are best protected by galloping legislators, some of whom seem to have an awful time hanging around Washington and saving wood—Astorian Budget.

current before very long and Chester Bowles breezed in, fresh from a successful career in advertising.

Bowles in recent months has found the going rough, too. But not all the blame should fall on him. As to food supply that was the peculiar job of the war food administration, not OPA. Pricing and rationing were OPA's chores. It has made mistakes some of which it admits. We hardly see how it could avoid mistakes in bossing distribution of supplies for 130 million people.

But whether OPA's blunders are great enough to warrant a resignation from Bowles is a question for President Truman, not the senator from Oregon. The post is administrative. As far as we have been able to observe the legislative arm has been far readier with complaint and criticism of war agencies than it has been with counsel and support. House and senate chambers have been amplifiers of gripes, some of them valid, others the squeals of those unwilling to accept regulation.

Maybe Bowles should go; maybe he wants to go. But what assurance is there that a No. Four administrator will do a better job than Henderson, Brown, and Bowles?

Election in Canada

The liberal party headed by Prime Minister Mackenzie King won the Canadian election Monday. The result was forecast in the liberal sweep in provincial elections in Ontario last week. King, who has headed Canada's government most of the time for the last quarter-century, is thus returned to power. The old conservative party, now called progressive-conservative, ran second in the national election and the radical CCF ran third, despite its earlier successes in the prairie provinces.

While there was much criticism of the King ministry over the bungling of conscription, the old liberal stronghold of French-speaking Quebec held with King. Elsewhere the opposition divided between the Tories and the socialist CCF which let the liberals in.

While Canada has only a small population, government there is not a simple task. The French-Canadians of Quebec and lower Ontario are a staunch minority bloc, while the prairie provinces are inclined to social and economic experimentation. Alberta has gone in for social credit and Saskatchewan for government ownership and operation of industry, piecemeal. The poor showing of the CCF indicates Canada as a whole is not ready for socialism.

King is past 70, so his tenure of power will not be long extended. As far as the United States is concerned the result of balloting in the neighbor country is very satisfactory. King has long maintained friendly relations with this country, and we may expect a continuance of cordial cooperation in all matters of mutual concern.

From all sides come warnings that it would be the better part of wisdom to take care of these old cars of ours. The national automobile dealers' group is sending out statements decrying "false optimism" regarding reconversion and pointing out the "grave consequences of wide-spread car neglect."

Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
Associated Press War Analyst

Intensifying Japanese reaction against Chinese forces both east and west of the Hankow-Canton communications corridor is indicated in Chungking advises although enemy successes admitted at far separated points of action as yet furnish no definite indication of a concrete action.

They are, with one exception, too local in character to warrant belief that the Japanese have found it possible to take the offensive on any important scale.

The exception is the reported progress of two or more Japanese columns in Kwangtung and Kiangsi. They have been reported moving north in one case and east in the other, but presumably aiming at a junction that would widen eastward the defense lines for the lower stretch of the Hankow-Canton railway and its flanking north-south highways.

No more than Chinese militia or guerrilla forces are known to be operating in that area. That could also account for rapid enemy advances in that section in contrast to his now virtually completed retirement from Fukien and southeastern Chekiang provinces to the north and east.

The real danger points for the Japanese Hankow-Canton corridor so far as present Chinese operations go, however, lie far to the north and from the west. The Changsha-Hengchow span is still imperilled by the Chinese two-prong drive that is close to poaching in the south and has apparently cut the Changsha-Kingchow railway to the northeast in rear of enemy forces on the northwestern face of the bulge protecting Hengchow.

The supply line for defense of Poaching is via the Changsha-Poaching highway which lies just south of the last indicated Chinese position on the Changsha-Kingchow railway. If it should be cut to a sizable enemy force guarding the bottleneck stretch of the Hankow-Canton railway would be in danger of entrapment. It seems likely that the foe is slowly drawing in his forces to the southwest, including garrisons at Luichow and Kweilin, to brace this most crucial and vulnerable sector of the Hankow-Canton corridor.

The southwestward stem of the corridor leading to Indo-China has already lost its value as a supply route or for escape purposes. Reports of Japanese withdrawal have been persistent for weeks.

There is no present indication of enemy preparations to abandon the Hankow-Canton life line, however. Instead his limited operations in Kwangtung and Kiangsi seem aimed at widening it eastward beyond what would seem necessary if he is intent on holding it open only to facilitate escape northward of troops in Indo-China, Siam and the Malay peninsula.

One explanation might be Japanese fear that in event of an allied landing in eastern China, the Canton area might be that selected for the major amphibious moves.

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, June 12—(AP)—Without a fanfare or even an audible note of the bugles, Mr. Truman has eased the handling of European food over to the army, as much as possible.

The rumbling congressional distrust of united nations relief and rehabilitation administration and all the other government bureaus directly or remotely connected with a planned ideological distribution of foodstuffs abroad is unquestionably what inspired the passing process, the sliding away from them may be gradual and limited.

UNRRA has \$450,000,000, and has a few men in some Balkan nations like Yugoslavia, beyond the reach of our army. But our skilled army supply men are in France, Belgium, Holland, Italy and our part of Germany. They know enough about their business to supply a victory.

Therefore it is quite natural and logical for this government to utilize their distribution facilities, rather than to prod into action the half-dormant UNRRA, with its notions of handling food in a political way, gaining lip-promise for America from doughnuts. The change no doubt will be popular even among the hungry in Europe, as UNRRA has not been able to reach many with much (note Italy for a prime example).

The political phase may not have been discussed between the two. Yet it seems to me the fairest and cleanest job which could be done along this line in Europe will be the most popular, will gain us the most permanent friendliness, and in this connection, also the army qualifies best.

The shortage of all foodstuffs in this country today also precludes any reasonable possibility of going through with the new dealers' program of improving the diet of everyone everywhere. Indeed, the improvement of our diet at home has been turned by events into a primary administration responsibility.

Yet I hear new dealers here maintaining that this nation is eating better today than ever in its history—and they can contrive figures to shed a truthful light on this impossibility.

Their story is that the underprivileged are buying and eating more. They mention negroes. Yet all the negroes I know are in the same thin soup as every other citizen, unable to get more than a spare bone for it. Their most famed food was pork chops (and I have heard new dealers in years past shed verbal tears because negroes had to eat this meat of less nutritious content than beef), but they get no pork chops now.

No matter how high the NDS may pile their statistics, they cannot disprove the fact that few stores in my little town near here have had any meat, except bologna, since last Wednesday and the A&P closed its butcher counters last Saturday. Talk of diets to privileged or underprivileged becomes humorous when only bologna can be obtained by anyone, and a grade greatly inferior to pre-war at that.

But to a new dealer, everything is a class problem and a social question and there is no side to anything except the one they have taken. They cannot get their minds accustomed to working with bare rarders and over-taxed treasuries. There is a give away philosophy which is trying to survive a have not era.

No doubt they will start ricocheting a few shots at Mr. Truman for turning a worthy but impossible social purpose over to the un-social direction of the army.

If so, they could well be invited to turn themselves strictly to a diet of their own words. They might have an abundance, but they would starve to death, for there are no vitamins in their verbosity—or their statistics.

WOMAN LEAPS FROM BRIDGE
PORTLAND, June 12—(AP)—A woman identified as Marie Shan-nah Laughlin, 34, Portland, leaped to her death from the Vista avenue bridge today, taking her wire-haired terrier with her.

GRIN AND BEAR IT
By Lichty

PORTLAND, June 12—(AP)—The WFA food industry advisory committee here was on record today urging that fats and oils now going to lend-lease be given to Portland bakeries—22 of which have closed in the last month.

By July 1, 50 other ovens may be forced to shut down because of insufficient shortening and sugar, bakers said at the meeting.

The request went to the national war food administration. The committee said Portland restaurants alone could use all the lard rendered by local packers. Packing plants here are killing less than half the hogs handled a year ago, committee men reported.

Bolivian Pictures Will Be Shown by Friends

Thursday at 8 p.m. at the South Salem Friends church, South Commercial at Washington street, there will be a Salem quarter missionary rally with pictures of Bolivia.

Dr. George R. Warner, general secretary of the National Holiness Missionary society took these colored motion pictures while on a trip to Bolivia in company with Walter F. Lee and Joseph Reese of the Friends church.

Dr. Warner will explain the pictures and the general public is invited.

"Well, it isn't a bad company to work for—after 100 missions they they send us to a rest camp."

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued From Page 1)

(Continued from page 1) science now that few are equipped with adequate knowledge—and available for \$4800 a year. Most of those with the proper background of knowledge are employed by special interest groups like the railroads, lumber industry, business groups, and may have developed a bias which would disqualify them for this office which calls for strict devotion to the public interest.

Since so much of the recent agitation about taxes has come out of Multnomah county it might be a good thing if the new commissioner would come from that county—provided he be free of preconceptions and prejudices and special affiliations, a condition not easy to satisfy. Likewise there is a need to give more attention to the problems of urban taxation (city and school district) and thought might be given to this factor in making the selection of a tax commissioner.

Now is the time when the appointing officials should go on a search for the best qualified man, not sit back and pick from among the boomers who may come along. Above all, the recent difference of opinion among the three over the reappointment of Fisher and Galloway should not vex them in making this new choice. They should hunt till they find a man they can back unanimously. In view of past controversy and present problems this appointment is one of the most important to come before the state administration during this quadrennium. I hope the appointing officials so regard it.

Some of the boys remembered that before the war the high quality of Offenbach leather goods had been recognized all over the world. A few of them recalled they had paid fancy prices for such craftsmanship on Fifth avenue and elsewhere in America.

Many small Offenbach plants still were usable when the military government took over. Craftsmen still were there and needed little equipment other than their sewing machines, since there products were handmade except for stitching.

However, the leather industry was dead in Offenbach for two reasons: no raw materials and no way of distributing the article. So the military government went into action. Tanneries throughout the area were ransacked for workable leather until a small stockpile was assembled. Then the German craftsmen were called in—after the leading Nazis in their midst had been screened out by the army G-2 and counter intelligence

Starr to Head Oregon School Of Dentistry

PORTLAND, June 12—(AP)—Temporary dean of the University of Oregon dentistry school—formerly North Pacific College of Oregon—will be Dr. Ernest E. Starr of the present staff, the state board of higher education decided today.

He will serve pending selection of a permanent dean. Next year's budget for this Portland institution, the only dental school in the northwest, was adopted at today's board meeting. The last legislature added the school to the state system, appropriating \$150,000 for two years' improvements.

The board adopted an annual operating budget of \$263,914, partly covered by fee and clinic income, and a total budget of \$314,940. This includes \$40,000 of the legislative appropriation for new equipment and \$8000 for building renovation.

Dr. Herbert C. Miller, owner and president of the private college since its start, was named dean emeritus without compensation.

Detailed plans and specifications for a women's dormitory at Oregon State college received board approval, but proposed apartments for married veterans at the University of Oregon were indefinitely postponed. The board said rents on the university proposal would be too high, because bids submitted were so far above estimates. The finance committee report submitted by Edgar W. Smith recommended federal aid.

Other board action included: approval of \$16,050 more to complete improvement of physical education fields, building of physical plant shops, roads and walks at the university; approval of preliminary plans for a men's dormitory at Oregon State, with arrangements to collect out-of-state fees for veteran students enrolled under the "G.I." bill, as provided by the veterans administration.

Those who gave for the 10th time are A. W. Foglesong, 745 South High st.; Charles Claggett, 917 Kingwood ave.; E. Burr Miller, 450 North 19th st.; Rex Kimmel, 1861 State st.; and Frances Reid, 575 Court st.

Those who gave for the 11th time are G. C. Herrig, 2125 South Church st.; Elmer Terrill, 990 Fisher road; Hazel Harper, 1544 Ferry st.; Mrs. F. C. Bell, Glen Creek road; and Carmelita Hunt, 543 Shipping st.

Bakeries Can't Get Fats, Oils

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Kenneth L. Dixon AT THE FRONT

Leather Industry Underway Again. Thanks to Yanks

IN OCCUPIED GERMANY—(AP)—Just southeast of Frankfurt lies the German town of Offenbach where a group of economic minded doughboys have been experimenting successfully for a month with the old law of supply and demand.

The supply was German skilled labor. The demand Kenneth Dixon was that of Allied soldiers for worthwhile souvenirs.

The eventual product was some of the world's finest leather articles.

When the U.S. 19th corps doughboys moved into Offenbach they found much of the town destroyed. The local leather industry, which had been converted to full contracts for the German army, was paralyzed.

Some of the boys remembered that before the war the high quality of Offenbach leather goods had been recognized all over the world. A few of them recalled they had paid fancy prices for such craftsmanship on Fifth avenue and elsewhere in America.

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fight. The team in the field is doing its best, but the team at home must do its best too to keep the men supplied with all planes, tanks, ships and ammunition they need."

He said the Japanese have enjoyed little success in combatting the B-29 adding that losses have been phenomenally low.

Gen. Doolittle said the B-29 was the finest bomber ever produced and asked if he thought the United States had enough of them he replied:

"There is no such thing as enough of anything in a war. And the more we have the sooner we can get it over."

Blood Quota Almost Met Here Tuesday

Almost the quota of blood, 198 pints, was taken from residents of Salem and vicinity on Tuesday by the American Red Cross mobile blood unit at the First Methodist church.

Names added to the list of Gal-lon club members are Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Bradford, 1161 Second street, West Salem; Mrs. Mary E. Light, Silverton; Gene Vandenberg, 845 D street; Marvin Johnson, route one, box 142; Mrs. Beryl Porter, route four, box 108; Con-nell C. Ward, 449 South Cottage st. and Lewis McRae, 200 Fairview ave.

Nine-time donors are Kenneth Long, 360 Union st.; Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Weddle, Stayton; A. J. Swoboda, 670 South st.; Mrs. Vernal Starr, 1113 North Cottage st.; Lee Barnum, 1320 Mission st.

Those who gave for the 10th time are A. W. Foglesong, 745 South High st.; Charles Claggett, 917 Kingwood ave.; E. Burr Miller, 450 North 19th st.; Rex Kimmel, 1861 State st.; and Frances Reid, 575 Court st.

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Doolittle Says B-29 Will Not Win War Alone

SEATTLE, June 12—(AP)—The B-29 superfortress alone is incapable of knocking Japan out of the war but it will "unquestionably save many lives," among the ground forces Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle said here today.

"Jimmy" arrived to spur the Seventh war loan drive, immediately inspected the Boeing B-29 plants here, was star figure in a military parade and then made a public appearance in Seattle's victory square.

"I'm in a hurry to get this war over because I want to do it with a minimum loss of fine American boys," he said at a press conference.

"The Japs are putting up a hard

corps—and told "Here's your leather. Get to work."

That took care of production but it was only the beginning. Distribution and sales remained to be arranged.

The showroom of one of the town's larger plants which had suffered the least war damage was selected as a salesroom. The Offenbach merchants were called together after having been given the same screening to eliminate the Nazis.

They were told to get the salesroom cleaned up, equipped and staffed—ready for trade. Within 24 hours they were to open for business. Their customers were soldiers of the United Nations.

There was no time for advertising but the word spread fast and the first day was a sellout. Business hours are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., but the line of customers inevitably starts forming about an hour before opening time. The line consists of British Tommies, American WACS, nurses and even full colonels as well as buck privates and moves slowly in and out of the building all day long, rain or shine.

During the seven-hour day the store serves about 1,000 customers. At first each customer was permitted four purchases. That has been cut to two articles—but it is still a daily sellout.

The demand was so widespread that a branch store operated on the same basis was opened.

Despite the limited stock of goods this army-instigated enterprise now is responsible for the employment of more than 2,000 German civilian workers and does a daily volume average of 30,000 marks, representing about \$3,000.

However, there is no profiteering. The military government has fixed prices at approximately prewar levels and exacts a tax on the daily volume. In addition to preventing excess profits this tax also furnishes money for general improvement in war-torn Offenbach.

King Majority In Parliament Not Definite

OTTAWA, June 12—(AP)—The questions of whether Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King's liberal government will have a majority in the new parliament elected yesterday rests with the armed forces, whose votes, although cast, will not be announced for another week or ten days.

The King government, which had overwhelming majorities in the parliaments elected in 1935 and 1940, won handily over their nearest competitors, the progressive conservatives, but their total seats on the basis of the civilian vote was close to the 123 needed for a clear majority of the 245 in the house of commons.

Latest returns gave straight liberal candidates 117 seats and had them leading in both of two constituencies still in doubt. To these King could add eight independent-liberals elected for Quebec, giving him a total of 125 or 127.

There was some 750,000 service men and women at home and abroad who were registered to vote, and it was believed perhaps 500,000 cast ballots. Canadian press tabulations showed there were 64 seats where the civilian majorities were seven per cent or less and the soldier vote could conceivably alter the results.

FELT PLANT TO OPEN
PORTLAND, June 12—(AP)—Pacific Roofing company's \$90,000 plant to manufacture felt formerly imported from California will start operating here tomorrow. The factory will make felt from waste paper and rags.

Diamonds

J-Diamond Wedding Pair gracefully carved.

STEVENS & SONS

Terms Gladly Arranged 330 Court Street

Store Hours 9:30 - 6:00