

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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No Side Call for Truman

President Truman used good common sense in deciding to make no special call on Prime Minister Churchill preliminary to the meeting of the Big Three. The decision was smart. At once he makes it clear that though he is new at the conference he is seeking no advance coaching from an old stagehand like Churchill; and secondly, he makes it clear to Russia and the world that the United States is not playing "me too" on Britain's harp. The meeting is of the heads of the three states. It would be a mistake to have Truman enter the conference with Churchill holding him by the hand.

In the past we have had the feeling that the United States was a bit inclined to turn the spit at Britain's broiler. Roosevelt seemed ready to acquiesce in policies that really were laid out in Whitehall. The consequence was that we seemed to be in alliance with Britain against Russia. That is a wrong policy for us. Acting Secretary Grew in a statement this week tried to drive home the point that the United States acts on its own judgment and is not satellite either to Britain or Russia—which is quite as it should be.

It is only natural to expect that on many points we will find ourselves in agreement with the British. After all, our political system is similar to theirs and our history and traditions closely intertwined. So we do incline to think alike on many questions. However, we have always held an independent attitude toward British imperialism, and should be on guard now lest the settlements of the war enhance the seamy side of British power politics.

We are all a bit hazy now as to what the agenda at Potsdam will be. The Polish question is tabu. There will be numerous questions regarding methods of handling Germany, but most of these appear to be subjects for decision at lower levels of statecraft. Perhaps the Pacific situation will be discussed, and Truman may learn what Russia's intentions are in the far east—whether she will fight Japan or stay neutral, and if she fights what the conditions will be. Unless this is the principal topic the journey would seem superfluous save as giving Truman the opportunity to meet his conferees in power.

Somehow the people are not alarmed over the prospect of Truman, a new hand, going into this international poker game. They appear to have the feeling he will not lose his (or the country's) shirt in the negotiations of the conference.

No Cars for Race Horses

Weeks ago The Statesman pointed out the unfairness of allowing racetracks to operate, requiring use of transportation for horses or dogs, to say nothing of transportation of patrons, while continuing a ban on state fairs. At last the ODT has put a ban on use of railroads or common and contract motor carriers for hauling of race horses or show animals over the country. With the railroad situation what it is, it is absurd to permit diversion of cars and locomotives for transporting racehorses from track to track.

The country faces its most difficult period, as far as the railroads are concerned, during the remainder of this year. Passenger service must absorb the heavy movement of men from Europe and given furloughs at home, and the redeployment of the army on this coast preliminary to going out across the Pacific. Freight cars are urgently needed, not only for direct military use but also for shipment of grain and coal. A tight squeeze seems inevitable on railroads next fall when they struggle under a war load on top of its seasonal peak of ordinary freight. Elimination of shipping of non-essential freight is imperative to avert serious loss or distress.

Success With E Bonds

The great struggle of the Marion county war finance committee to reach its quota of E bonds in the seventh war loan proved successful. When to the subscriptions sent in from this county were added the county's proportionate share of army-navy subscriptions the total sales ran to \$2,280,076, or \$10,076 over the allotment. It is a wonderful achievement.

Now that the seventh war loan has been successfully concluded these observations seem in place: First the amount of the E bond quota was too large; second, the campaign was too long. Better to have shorter campaigns and lower quotas than one like the last which stretched from May into July. Since most of the work is done by volunteers the task becomes unfairly burdensome on a few people. These criticisms should be noted in planning for the eighth war loan, now scheduled, we understand, for November.

Editorial Comment

"ONE WAR"

British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden's son is reported missing in action in Burma where his plane failed to return from an operational flight. Here is one of several million tragedies of a vast war, but reveals that this is one war for the rich and poor, the great and the humble. Eden is not only the second man in the British cabinet and the probable next premier if the Conservatives win the current national election. His family has been an aristocratic one for generations, as has Churchill's.

Yet young Eden was not a commissioned officer, but a sergeant, and he was serving in perhaps the most dangerous branch of the service in one of the most disagreeable sectors of the whole war, climatically and otherwise. None of the favoritism, aristocratic countries are supposed to reek with was in evidence here.—Baker Democrat-Herald.

A Keeper of the Light

Of all the so-called "silent services" we suggest that the lighthouse service is the most silent. Were it not for the foghorns it uses to supplement lights it would make no noise at all—least of all regarding the loyal devotion to duty of the men in the service.

One of these men, Clifford B. Hermann, keeper of the light at Heceta head on the Oregon coast, has just been honored with a letter of commendation from the secretary of the navy for his 44 years of duty in the lighthouse service. Hermann was born in Salem, entered the lighthouse service as a young man, served on Destruction island and Tatoosh on the Washington coast, and took over the Heceta light in 1925.

Heceta light, as travelers of the coast highway remember, is a regular picture torn from a child's book, standing as it does on the rocky promontory, with its pure white tower and red roof against the green of the hillside. Beauty spot that it is, no doubt the tenders of the light have moments of loneliness. Yet they keep the light burning, every night, for fidelity to duty is the badge of the lighthouse keeper. Salem sends cordial greetings to a native son who in this "silent service" has shown his faithfulness.

The arrest of the clam-holders was a minor midsummer madness for Oregon, and everyone concerned seems to be ducking the responsibility save the state police whose job is to enforce, not write, the laws. Newspapers have used up considerable space discussing the incident, but no one has put the bee on the real culprit, the chap who put through the clammy legislation in the 1937 session. He should be caught and fed hot clam chowder all summer.

Crown Willamette Paper Co., is planning expansion of its plant at West Linn and will go into manufacture of coated magazine paper. Previously the mill there has confined itself to newsprint. Part of this new production will go to printing of Time magazine. Crown isn't sitting back grousing over politics, but stepping out and staking its own money in large amounts on the future.

Union leaders are threatening a strike of lumber and sawmill workers unless their wages are upped 20 cents an hour. Logger pay now calls for a Paul Bunyan purse to hold the greenbacks for a month's work. If the workers strike it will be for a rest as much as anything. With lumber still a critical material for the war in the Pacific, it hardly seems possible that the workers would stop production now.

Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON

Associated Press War Analyst

Hardly had Navy Undersecretary Gates released his final report as air secretary announcing "complete domination of the air" over all the seas that surround Japan than there came convincing proof.

Navy patrol and search planes coming the Yellow sea intercepted and turned back troop laden convoys bound from China to Japan. They were driven to refuge in the shallow waters of the port of Tsing-Tao far up the Chinese coast. There is good prospect that most of the ships will end their sailing days there under naval air attacks.

None escaped eastward to Korean or Japanese waters. That means that the air and submarine isolation of Japan from powerful Japanese armies of occupation northern China is complete. But the mere fact that Tokyo was endeavoring at whatever risk to recall fighting forces from China for home defense use is perhaps the most significant aspect of that action in the Yellow sea.

It reemphasizes the fact that the American advance across the Pacific to Japan's own doorstep and into the Philippines has probably moved so swiftly that she has been caught with relatively few first line troops available to man home defenses. Her seasoned veterans are mostly in China or annihilated or trapped in isolated portions of her once vast conquest zone. There is no official information available on the composition of her homeguard armies; but the effort to recruit them from China under such dubious circumstances as the event in the Yellow sea demonstrated snacks of desperation. There may be no more than a sprinkling of Japanese regular army units to stiffen the reserve levies upon which the invasion attack will fall when it comes.

An even graver situation for Japanese garrisons in Indo China, Thailand, Malaya and on Sumatra as well as Borneo is taking shape. British and Japanese reports tell of preliminary operations by powerful British naval task forces in the Bay of Bengal that can have only one meaning. They are paving the way for seizure of operating advance bases in the Nicobar islands and upon the western tip of Sumatra at the entrance to Malacca strait that leads direct to Singapore and the south China sea.

British advisers say task forces of the East Indies fleet have been recently clearing enemy mines off Nicobar.

Of no less significance is a Tokyo radio report that carrier based British planes in force were blasting at Sabang on the northwestern end of Sumatra. That would be the logical site for an advance air base for Admiral Lord Mountbatten's forces when the campaign to regain Malaya and Singapore is launched from India.

There has been some speculation but not official intimation that eventually command of Australian ground and air forces on Borneo may pass from General MacArthur to Admiral Mountbatten in preparation for the final campaigns to destroy Japanese garrisons isolated around the lower end of the south China sea. That conception is based on the assumption that the invasion of Japan, when the hour for that strikes, will require full American attention leaving the mopping up job in the south to Mountbatten's forces.



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Stormy Weather

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

PROUST AND PAINTING, by Maurice E. Chermontz (International University Press, \$1.75). The Marcel Proust bibliography is probably longer than that about any other writer dead so short a time. But there's always room to add one more, and Chermontz's should be inserted near the top.

He develops an important facet of the great novelist's genius. The critic's prose is pretty prosaic and he won't appeal to a wide circle of readers. Proust fans, however, can't get along without him.

There used to be a tendency, especially among reviewers who class-angle their stories, to dismiss Proust as a dilettante, playboy of the Faubourg St. Germain and pet of a decadent social class. Partly from that attitude grew the tendency to regard Proust's knowledge of music and painting as superficial.

The music question has been settled, in Proust's favor. Chermontz settles it in painting, too. He admits the Frenchman's knowledge of contemporaries was somewhat restricted by his social connections, and also by the fact that for 2 years illness prevented visits to exhibitions.

Nevertheless, the man who could be devoted so intensely to Vermeer that only a few months before death he could leave his sick bed at great cost in suffering to see a Vermeer show can't be accused of a merely polite interest in painting.

Anybody who has read with care "A la Recherche du Temps Perdu," translated as "In Memory of Things Past," could not possibly disagree with this critic's claim that Proust's "use of painting as literary material... can be said to have been a deeply creative and sincere experience." It might almost be asserted that, without Botticelli, Swann couldn't have loved Odette, and that without Botticelli, Proust couldn't have created his Swann.

Proust's painter Elstir is a composite of the Impressionists, in particular Monet. Proust views the world of which he writes with the same fresh innocence that characterizes the Impressionists. He was as sensitive to light effects as an artist. Weather was no topic of idle

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, July 12.—The stories about what happened to Hitler and Eva, are getting bigger, but worse.

The Russians first suppressed, then announced, then denied the finding of remains of the two whom they said, had been married, before the spirit left them.

American reporters have followed about the same experience, the first arrivals at the chancellery announcing the bodies were not a bit different, a few identified, and found various insignificant proofs that Adolf and Eva died in their official dog luxurious holes.

Frankly, I want to see the corpse decelerated before I believe anything.

The most eminent authorities here frequently have said they believed Hitler dead, but have never said why or how.

An explanatory version, generally accepted among military men, is that German army leaders (the high command) killed Hitler and his girl friend, just as they once are supposed, slyly, to have slain socialist president Ebert, when he refused to leave government, upon their demand, to make way for Marshal Von Hindenburg.

Ebert was subject to indigestion attacks, and was a heavy eater. Following an official dinner and an attack, conspirators rushed him to a hospital where a conspiring surgeon immediately "operated," and Ebert died on the table.

Himmler's story that Hitler died of cerebral hemorrhage is not believed because a Nazi doctor, now our prisoner, examined him in mid-April and found his blood pressure low. But Himmler's concocted story suggests

conversation; it meant as much to him as to Monet. He may have owed this sensitivity, however, to the tragic allergy which obliged him to enjoy Monet's haystacks only on canvas, to flee from nature to his airless room.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"Civilian life will seem strange at that—what with bazaar, raffish, and bingo games we'll have to help our congregations stage, to raise money for our military."

Well Trained Noms
Even Ordered to
Laugh in Cadence

OCCUPIED GERMANY—(F) Beck and Vallet still are working third division GIs even though it is the first time in more than two years that they have performed regularly without a background of mortars and 88s.

From Fedala, North Africa, to Salzburg, Germany, Corp. Charles Vallet, master of ceremonies, and PFC Ralph Beck, magician, have chartered their patter and done their tricks for combat-line GIs, wounded doughfaces in hospitals and dozens of generals. They have averaged more than a show a

day for more than a year, and have put on as many as a dozen performances in a single day.

Vallet hails from Maspeth, Long Island, and made the Fedala landing with B company of the 15th regiment—strictly a soldier despite his stage experience. Simultaneously Beck, the erstwhile "Manipo the Magician" of Chicago, was hitting the beaches with the third reconnaissance troops and figuring that it would be quite a trick just to keep alive.

He didn't know the half of it. Ahead lay French Morocco, Tunisia, Sicily, southern Italy, Cassino, Anzio, Rome, France, Germany and Austria—the trail of the third division has taken the two fighting entertainers a long way since Fedala.

They joined forces and became a team at Arzew, Algeria, and have been split up only once since. That was when Beck spent two weeks as part of Irving Berlin's "This is the Army" troupe after Rome fell. But Iron Mike O'Daniel, the third division's commanding general, heard about his magician's vanishing act and allowed as how nobody was going to grab the third division's top hocus-pocus agent.

It's no trick at all for a general to make a PFC magician reappear.

With one exception, life is much as it used to be back at Pomona, Calif., for Sgt. R. M. Maple of the 334th infantry regiment. That exception, however, is very important from the sergeant's point of view.

The sergeant is a life guard, just as he used to be, and now he keeps a practiced eye on the aquatic cavorting of doughboys. "Except for that missing element, this is the best job I have ever had," he said.

"What is the missing element?" asked a stooge.

"Women," said the sergeant succinctly. "Women to save, women to look at, women to talk to. Briefly, California women. Specifically, women from Pomona college and the Scripps Schools for Girls."

Nevertheless he conceded that it was certainly better here than in the Ardennes during the German breakthrough.

"Remember all that snow?" he said, an old familiar climate gleam came into his eyes, "now in California—"

The most embarrassing moment in the career of another lifeguard came from the very missing element of which Maple complained—women.

This particular guard spotted several girls in swimming; with considerable profanity he yelled for them to get out, that it was verboten for frauleins.

He stopped suddenly in the middle of an expletive when one feminine swimmer sang out coyly, "my, my, such language, tak, tak, tak," and then he turned a deep purple when a second one called:

"Relax, soldier, we're nurses from the 10th field hospital across the river."

This belongs in the "now we've heard everything" class. Questioning German soldiers in his capacity as a military government officer, Lt. Albert H. Kahlenberg, of Oak Park, Ill., was told about what he termed the extreme in military language—"the German military laugh."

According to wehrmacht members, when a speaker was (Continued on page 11)

WESTERN OREGON

County	1940	1945
Benton	215	4031
Clackamas	519	4432
Columbia	37	20,140
Coos	150	8890
Curry	243	27,125
Douglas	469	28,720
Jackson	280	28,720
Josephine	244	12,245
Lane	397	3,263
Lincoln	16	9594
Linn	82	18,546
Marion	474	8,618
Multnomah	121	11,711
Polk	15	13,708
Tillamook	19	714
Washington	323	4,607
Yamhill	19	14,751

EASTERN OREGON

County	1940	1945
Baker	160	80,004
Crook	52	77,494
Deschutes	54	51,075
Gilliam	59	39,169
Grant	41	429
Harney	46	614,817
Hood River	46	240,826
Jefferson	42	19,257
Klamath	151	32,071
Lake	10	8800
Malheur	34	24,908
Morrow	11	100,207
Sherman	108	24,908
Union	47	100,207
Wallowa	128	12,480
Wasco	155	
Wheeler	2	

Those who believe this doubt the current yarns that Hitler chose his better role in Spain or Latin America. He was not looking for sympathy or sympathizers, but for oblivion. He could prepare and lead the life of a double better in his native surroundings, Austria, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia or even in the southern Germany hills, they say.

Interesting yarns—both at them. Take your pick.

McCALL, Idaho—(F)—This central Idaho resort town, which annually has reports of a sea serpent in adjacent Fayette lake to spice its summer gossip, now has an outside "peeping tom" story. Mrs. Charles Tinsley was terrified by a face at the window. Staff Sgt. Carl Selber, home from the war front, fired a volley of shots at the intruder. His aim was good and he now has a six-foot bear pelt to prove it.

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10-K and
14-K Gold

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Massive
10-K Gold
Rings
His
Birthstone

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