

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Incentive to Unity

Reports say that the conference of the Big Three at Potsdam may last from ten days to three weeks. If the conferees review the problems of Germany and of Europe and then try to settle those of Asia the discussions may well be prolonged the full three weeks. Just as unity among the three powers was necessary to achieve military victory over Germany so that unity is necessary to preserve the victory and especially to make the new United Nations organization succeed.

We have been inclined, now that Germany is prostrate, to think the job is done over there and to concentrate on the continuing war with Japan. However, as Senator Kilgore's subcommittee on war mobilization has just reported: "Germany in defeat remains a major threat to the peace of the world." The report accuses the Germans of setting in motion already plans for a third attempt to enslave the world, and lays down as an "indispensable condition to peace in Europe" this dictum: "No peace making can be successful which does not at the outset thwart these plans and destroy Germany's potential for war making."

The Kilgore report summarizes this "potential" as follows:

Germany today is better prepared to implement her plot for world conquest than she was at the end of World War I. Her major resources include (1) the world's third strongest industrial economy; (2) tremendous industrial recuperative power; (3) a world-wide network of economic and political reserves and a system of commercial interrelationships penetrating the economies of other nations; and (4) the science of aggression perfected by her leading industrialists, militarists, and politicians to reverse the decisions of the battlefield.

It makes the following specific recommendations for the policing of Germany to prevent it from breaching the peace a third time:

1. Exhaustive examination and analysis of records of the German government, and industrial and other organizations. This work, which has already been initiated, should be expanded and necessary personnel made available for its successful operation. The records themselves should be carefully preserved and copies furnished to the executive agencies and the congress for study.

2. Periodic submission by the United States representatives on the Allied Control Council through the Office of the President of public reports to congress on the progress of German disarmament and control. Arrangement should be made now that these reports be submitted annually for the next 15 years. In addition, it should be provided that for the first 3 or 5 years, quarterly interim reports be made. It is suggested that the first annual report be made on January 1, 1946.

These are clearly subjects calling for close cooperation among the allied nations. Fear of Germany may be one powerful incentive to allied unity.

## New Alaska Highway

Gov. Mon Wallgren evidently sold President Truman a bill of goods on the proposed Alaska highway through British Columbia. At least the president endorsed it on his recent visit in Washington state and now the promoters are eager to press the advantage which such an endorsement gives. However a recent Alaskan visit in the states pointed out the more urgent need of airfields in his country. For Alaska is jumping from the dog-team age to the aviation age, without intermediate stops at railroad and motor vehicle ages.

The Statesman protests pouring more money into an Alaskan highway. The new route is a little better than that of Alcan, but still it begins nowhere and arrives nowhere. When one gets to Fairbanks for example he is just at Fairbanks; he has to use some other means of travel to get over Alaska.

The logical means of transportation for Alaska is by water and by air, with a few railroads and

with local highways. The proposed highway will not draw enough travel to be economically practical. The money would better be spent on airfield improvements over the district. Oregon, just because it is neighbor to Washington, ought not to be sucked in for the endorsement of this costly and relatively useless highway.

## Committee Favors Charter

The charter of the United Nations has met with a far more favorable reception in the senate than did the covenant of the league of nations. After a short period of hearings the foreign relations committee gave it a favorable report, 20 voting in favor, with three absent; Hiram Johnson of California, Murray of Montana and Shipstead of Minnesota. Later the count was reported at 21 to 1, presumably Murray voting with the majority and Johnson or Shipstead in the minority. In 1919 the foreign relations committee was sharply divided, with Henry Cabot Lodge, ranking minority member, strongly opposed to the covenant.

While some senators have expressed opposition to certain provisions of the charter, it is not anticipated there will be more than two or three votes against ratification. This has been achieved in part through care in the drafting of the charter, and in part through the bi-partisan approach engineered by former Secretary Hull. The latter made a consistent effort to keep the issue of cooperation for world peace out of party politics. The recognition given to republicans Vandenberg, Eaton and Stassen also disarmed party die-hards and gave the charter powerful advocates.

The charter itself offers merely a beginning toward federation of nations. If it works in the single goal of preserving world peace it will be one of the greatest steps ever made in human progress. Considering our losses in two wars we should be ready to fall in with other nations and make that initial step.

## Mystery of Jap Planes

The great mystery is where the Japs are hoarding their planes. We surmise the Japs are hoarding planes the same way the Germans did the last year, by not making them. We wondered where the luftwaffe was on D-day and after. It just wasn't, except for sporadic raids.

The Japs may be holding back some planes in Manchuria for use on VJ-day, but our long-range bombers can now search them out, deep in Manchuria. Jap air strength like Jap navy strength is fast becoming non-existent as a real factor in the war.

## Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON  
Associated Press War Analyst

Conjecture varies as to the compelling reason for Japanese failure to react in any substantial way to close range naval as well as air bombardment of her important northern coastal cities, and failing fuel supplies for enemy ships of air and sea is as good a guess as any.

Nor can it be doubted that aside from Admiral Halsey's hope of bringing Japanese fleets of both categories to action, further impairment of enemy gasoline and fuel resources was a prime objective of the bold venturing of Halsey's mighty Third fleet within easy medium gun range of the Japanese coast.

Recapitulations from Guam of the results of sustained sea-air strategic attack stress the fact three of the cities "erased" in the operation were oil centers. Lying far to the north on Hokkaido island, the three cities blasted by Third fleet guns or planes—Muroran, Sapporo and Kushiro,—were not only steel production centers but links in Japan's oil reserve line never before brought under American fire. Oil reserves also were the main targets of far ranging simultaneous air attacks by land-based bombers in central and southern Japan.

That what is left of Japan's once great surface fleet failed to put in an appearance to dispute Halsey's sea attack is not particularly surprising. There is every indication that the ships are holed-up in the inland sea far to the south. Its waters are deep to the shore line, serving much the same purpose as did deep and narrow Norwegian fiords in offering concealment for big German battleships and cruisers. They could lie close to high shores, screened from air scouts, and in channels too narrow for torpedo plane attacks if spotted.

Persistent mining of the entrances and exits from the inland sea by American mine-laying Superforts represented a further obstacle to Japanese fleet emergence to challenge Halsey's fleet. That is apt to come only when amphibious invasion starts and the Japs obviously expect that to happen in the south, not the north.

Lack of fuel and conservation of air and sea power against invasion day can therefore partially account for lack of any reaction.

It is possible that Japanese defense concepts in the north relied so completely on air and sea outposts in the Kuriles to deal with any enemy advance on Hokkaido that shore batteries were never installed around Mororan bay on the great gulf that leads to it. Halsey's ships were in easy range of even light and medium enemy mobile field guns, however, and why they remained silent is difficult to explain. It could indicate that Japanese ground defense forces have been heavily concentrated to the south where invasion is expected and thus were caught napping by the fleet raid.

Whatever else can be read of the purposes prompting that most striking demonstration to date of American sea-air domination even of Japan's own inshore waters, it adds to the ever increasing strain on Japanese war nerves. Its psychological effect could be even more important than its direct military results. It brought home to the people of northern Japan what those of southern Japan have already learned, that Tokyo boasts of Japanese immunity to attack by sea or air or amphibious invasion are meaningless.



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Waiting for the Big One

## The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

THE LEAGUE OF FRIGHTENED PHILISTINES, by James T. Farrell (Vanguard; \$2.75). The jacket of this book got me all excited because, from the connection in the design between the word "Philistines" and the names of Dreiser, Lardner, Joyce, Mark Twain, Dostoevsky and Hemingway, I thought Farrell was attacking them.

I had no sooner learned he was not, as to be sure it seemed impossible he could, than I got all excited again when I started to read the various papers collected here. Farrell is as much a fighter as writer; the pen is a sword to him; he sits at his desk with chips on each shoulder.

Despite his blasts at the critical fraternity, a substantial majority of it probably would agree with his estimates of the novelists he surveys. Comprehending better than most of us the real nature of this world, he created fictional characters who have managed to epitomize the deeper social and psychological struggles of their times. That is precisely what Farrell has done in Studs Lonigan and Danny O'Neill.

As to who's to blame for the difficulties which, Farrell says, liberals must overcome in order to get a hearing, there are several possible opinions.

Farrell is wrong in asserting that "the area of freedom" for the mind and art "was certainly greater in Restoration France than it is in modern America." A St. Simon and a Fourier could get a hearing today. That is, if we had men of their caliber, they could get a hearing, as indeed Farrell did.

The reason Farrell gives for the wide circulation of fiction and films of cheap quality is that movie czars and publishers make more money on the counterfeit than on the real article. But beyond that it is the undeniable fact that shoddy pays more than whole cloth because the masses by and large prefer second rate to first rate, prefer Lloyd C. Douglas to James T. Farrell, "Forever Amber" to "Ulysses."

Like Farrell, I wish they didn't. But I blame their appetites as much as the people who cater to them. There are enough worthy books for the public to read if only the public would. Farrell himself writes one every year or so... and has no trouble getting it published.

## News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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Editor's Note: The Mallon column today will be the last for two weeks, as Mr. Mallon will be absent on vacation for that period. He will resume writing for publication Wednesday, August 1.

WASHINGTON, July 16.—No secret meetings with the military were held by the Woodrum house committee which urged what it called "a broad policy of universal military training."

No special information concerning difficulties ahead of this nation was privately passed to the committee by the war department which has been promoting the youth draft. Specifically, no inside scare over Russia inspired the committee.

Consequently, considerable perplexity has developed as to how and why it went contrary to the weight of evidence in its own hearings.

It seemed to vote 16 to 0 in favor of a program which none of its hearing witnesses endorsed, except the army, navy, state departments and the U. S. chamber of commerce, against the popular opposition of national educational groups, both major national labor organizations, two of the three national farm organizations, as well as the usual peace societies, and women's groups.

To make the mystery more possible, one member of the committee says he has received only two letters from his district in favor of the youth draft, while he has a bushel of mail against it.

When congressmen go 16 to 0 (the remaining six members abstained or wanted to delay action but did not vote against the report directly) in favor of something opposed by their constituents and the most powerful lobbies in Washington—labor, farmer, education, women—a miracle is wrought.

This one seems to come within the realm of magic — political magic. It should have been entitled "how to be a politician in one easy lesson." Caught between

the army and the lobbies, the committee savored both, opposite courses—in moderation, of course.

Committee Chairman Woodrum tossed all the hot potato evidence he had amassed, into the air, then caught and came forward with some conglomeration which steamed in the headlines.

Actually it is cold potato salad. His pride in it did not leap even to ordinary bounds as he did not even have it printed in the congressional record which prints all congressional thoughts for the asking.

Upon close inspection you will find the report did not endorse the war department program but was worded to sound as if it did, by approving "the principles" and "the broad policy" yet undefined.

Among members of the Woodrum committee is Representative James W. Wadsworth, of New York, who is supposed to have seen to the wording. He wants to draft all youth of 18 or thereabouts for a year in the army.

Talking around with the committeemen, you will find many favor a democratic substitute such as advocated by the veterans of foreign wars for training boys in schools, without interrupting their education, expanding the national guard and reserve systems, and summer camps. The report did not oppose this, excepting it seemed to want the youths drafted for it.

The veterans of foreign wars program, following the lines outlined in this column since last September, now rates the best chance of adoption by congress in the end—without a draft—but only after more magic and semantics. Next will come a report from the house military affairs committee and this may recommend drafting, as the military totalitarians are in the majority there also.

But on the floor of the senate and house today, a majority for a youth draft would be hard to find. Compulsion for home and school training without a national draft is the obvious compromise.

The army has never come forward with a specific outline of what it intended to do with the young men if it gets control of them for a year (no one mentions the young women any more and I assume they have been dropped from the army training program.)

But retired officers who are going around the country whipping up sentiment in American Legion posts advocate something like this: Nine weeks' basic training (bunk making, setting-up exercises, etc.); nine weeks of specialists training in various of the 4000 specialist categories in the army; 13 weeks of small units training, working in squads, companies and battalions; 13 weeks of combat training and the final eight weeks in maneuvers.

There would be no refresher courses.

Even so, the program still calls for a regular army and navy and a national guard considerably larger than pre-war.

## Milk Shortage Threat

### Removed by Purchase

Threat of a milk shortage in Salem was removed when the Dairy Cooperative association contracted to purchase 16,000 pounds of milk daily in Washington county, Joe Kendrick, manager, declared here Monday.

The association has asked the office of defense transportation to permit extension of its routes so that grade A milk may be provided from outside the Salem milkshed for the army.

Klamath L. Dixon AT THE FRONT! WAC Who Guards German Winery Does Not Drink

## OCCUPIED GERMANY—(P)

When the public relations officer of the 84th division heard about it, he practically broke a hamstring rushing to assign a reporter to cover the occurrence.

"You know how to handle it," the pro instructed, "it is a doughboy dream job and that sort of stuff."

So the reporter hurried right over and located PFC. Marcel Rhodes, Canton, NC, who sure enough was standing guard over a well-filled German winery.

"How do you like your job?" the soldier was asked, "do you do much wine tasting? What did you do to deserve this assignment?"

"I don't like it," replied PFC. Rhodes, "furthermore, I consider it a drudgery and a bore." "Ha, ha, that's a good gag," chuckled the reporter appreciatively, "now tell me what kind of wine you like best."

"None," said PFC. Marcel Rhodes, "I don't drink."

A short, short story: the men who know most about discharge points in the 325th field artillery are the clerks in the personnel section who have been adding and subtracting them for the guys in the outfit for several

weeks. There is, however, not a single man in the entire section who has enough points personally to get out of the army.

Despite what they have always said, it begins to look as though some of the boys aren't going to try too hard to "forget all about it" in the postwar years after all.

Many outfits already are forming organizations for division, corps and army reunions after they have returned to civilian life. They are drawing up charters and taking memberships, electing officers and selecting organizational headquarters.

Plans generally call for one full membership meeting a year with various smaller sessions for handling any problems which might arise, such as postwar legislation in which the outfit might be interested.

Another interesting phase of postwar planning concerns division, corps and army histories. Everybody is writing one or has one written—and this correspondent personally does not want to be around when a couple of division historians get together to compare notes.

That is partly the result of reading small booklet type histories which the outfits have been putting out for the past several months and partly from considerable experience work—

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has been amended nearly 60 times.

I have wondered sometimes why some one hasn't proposed a constitutional convention to revise Oregon's constitution.

While numerous amendments have kept it fairly modern, it could stand thoroughgoing revision. Some dead and conflicting material could be eliminated. But whether the convention would agree on certain vital questions, and then the people approve, is doubtful.

Among them are: greater flexibility to our tax system by removing the ban on emergency clause to legislative tax measures.

Revision of plan for representation in the legislature, the present constitutional mandate for representation according to population being regularly ignored.

Granting to supreme court power to make rules of procedure in all courts.

Consolidation of counties; and of Portland-Multnomah city-county.

Real reform in county and school district administration.

Some day Oregon may decide to revise its constitution, which is pretty much of a patchwork quilt now. Our local government particularly could stand modernization in its machinery. We ought to be studying the work of these states which are framing new constitutions for their government in preparation for drawing up a new constitution in Oregon.

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## GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



New recruits very poor quality and low morale—refuse to come with suicide when ordered!

## The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

RESTAURANT INSPECTION To the Editor: Read your editorial on restaurant inspection Saturday and it is to be hoped that the agricultural department of the state will bear down on some of the restaurants in the higher brackets, and we could mention one, in fact one of the high priced ones of Salem, which seems to be immune from all laws and ordinances and OPA regulations, and this place has nearly all of its pastries exposed, with flies feasting on doughnuts and cake before being served to the unfortunate customers.

The city inspectors seemed to have ignored all complaints and we hope the new inspectors will give the city restaurants a thorough going over. The new law gives them plenty of leeway to remedy filthy conditions and bring the culprits into court or close them up. I understand this was done here a few years ago and for a time sanitary improvements were noticed.

HENRY M. JOHNS.

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