

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Full-time USO

News that the USO is to be reopened on a full-time basis with Bob Boardman again in charge is welcomed by all who are concerned with soldier welfare. Camp Adair is again filling up with troops. The hospital there is taking care of many navy men who are sick or wounded. The Corvallis navy air base has many men who like to get 40 miles off base to see the sights. This means that there is ample "traffic" to keep the USO functioning.

As a replacement depot Camp Adair will receive and hold army ground forces for a time and then ship them out when the call comes for men to go overseas. The turnover there is expected to be rapid. Men may be there for just a few weeks or for a longer period, but not for the intense training session which was true when divisions were formed and trained there.

These men are expected to have more liberty time, which means more of them will be free to come to Salem. The experience last week when the men in khaki and GI boots swarmed into town and swamped all facilities shows we must do a better job of preparation.

Open full time, the USO will be a clubhouse for visiting service men. It will be a center where those willing to help provide entertainment for soldiers may report. Salem citizens should respond as they did before and give these boys a cordial reception. After all, they are going out on a long voyage, in our behalf. They deserve the best of everything before they shove off.

Army of Wives

English girls are not without a degree of charm, for thousands of them have succeeded in capturing American GIs for husbands. It is reported that 10,000 English and Welsh wives of American soldiers are now registered and waiting for travel accommodations to the United States; another 20,000 brides have made application; and the Red Cross estimates there are 20,000 more who haven't made application yet. That would total to 50,000 persons, no small army in itself.

To this number should be added the Australian wives, and later probably some French wives and maybe some German wives as the non-fraternalization rule is relaxed. The total may easily run into six figures.

To American girls who are sitting the war out this is tough competition. Absence may make the heart grow fonder, but many times it makes the heart wander.

There's nothing we can do about it, though, so we will just have to greet these numerous "in-laws" and welcome them as new Americans. One can understand their eagerness to come to this country in view of its fame as a land of plenty and of freedom.

Go to Halifax is an old expletive which has kept the name of the Nova Scotia port alive. Its other claim to attention seems to arise over its explosions. A tremendous explosion occurred there in the other war when a munitions ship in the harbor blew up. Now a jetty fire has set off other explosions of munitions. As a great shipping depot for Canada, Halifax has handled enormous quantities of high explosives, so it sits literally on a powder keg. Fortunately the present blasts caused few casualties.

At least OPA's failure cannot be attributed to lack of advice.

Editorial Comment

ARGENTINA

Something is rotten in Argentina—and it smells powerfully like the Farrell-Peron government. Despite all the mouthings of this regime in behalf of democratic methods, Fascist practices remain. That government not only signed the Act of Chapultepec but is pledging an early signature to the United Nations charter, and still American newspaper men are being hounded in Buenos Aires like common criminals.

One week Vice President Juan Peron announces that censorship has been lifted. The next week it is back again, unannounced, with a squeeze tighter than ever. Individual liberties are so far curtailed that the once great dailies of La Prensa and La Nacion are completely hamstringed and ineffectual.

The people in control—Farrell, Peron or the army behind them—have discovered that they cannot forever hold American correspondents incommunicado. These reporters have succeeded in telling the world outside exactly what is going on in Argentina. Sometimes their stories have circumvented censorship. At other times they have been passed by the censors only to have the government attempt reprisals for something that was written. The old method of threatening correspondents—holding them responsible when they wrote something detrimental to the government—has given way to a reign of terrorism against them.

Arnaldo Cortesi of the New York Times and Joe Newman of the New York Herald Tribune have been threatened with bodily injury. They, and others like Ernie Hill of the Chicago Daily News and Virginia Prewett of the Chicago Sun, have been followed and hounded by the local "gestapo." Needless to say these reporters have not, and will not be intimidated.

Of course, Peron and his henchmen deny any part in the campaign against these newspaper men. But whether they are directly responsible or not they certainly know what is going on. If any harm befalls these American citizens they should be held responsible.

There are many places in this hemisphere and around the world where American reporters are not permitted to function. But Argentina is the only spot where our correspondents are getting kicked around in this manner. It is time our own government made vigorous representations to Argentina against this treatment.—Editor and Publisher.

End to Subsidies?

The AP had a story early in the week about how the department of agriculture hopes to ease the government out of the subsidy business on foods. The plan is to let the government slide out of paying subsidies to producers of meat, butter, milk, flour, soybean products, etc., and let the consumer pay the bill. Ceiling prices would be permitted to increase and wages might go up to permit workers to absorb the increase in cost of living.

The theory is that with the war tapering off by 1946 the fear of inflation will not be so great and prospect of overproduction will serve as a deflationary influence. At any rate Secretary Anderson is said to favor getting the government out of granting subsidies, which now cost a billion and a half.

A year ago many farm organizations fought for just this: no subsidies and a freer market. Now that they have enjoyed subsidies they may not like being cuffed away from the crib, especially when they may foresee sagging prices from shrinking of wartime demands.

The story may have been a trial balloon to get public—and farmer—reaction. We hope the plan is carried out, though with reasonable protection to the farmers against too sharp deflation.

Inquisitive Ickes

Secretary Ickes, so we are informed, will seek to have his status clarified by President Truman. Unless there is a clear invitation for him to remain as head of the department of the interior, he will ask that the resignation previously filed be accepted. Ickes may learn the old truth that "curiosity killed a cat."

The general impression is that Ickes will get about the same response that Morgenthau did when he got irked over rumors and put his case up to the chief. In other words Ickes will be next to leave the cabinet.

When this happens it will take the last of the 1932 Roosevelt cabinet appointees, the great hatchet-men of the new deal. With Ickes out of the Washington scene will have something missing, though in many quarters not missed.

Tuna are again running northern waters and the fishing season off the coast is resuming for the season. Tuna has displaced salmon as the big fish crop down at Astoria. Once regarded as a stray migration, tuna are now considered a permanent resource of the ocean off the mouth of the Columbia.

Salem filled up with soldiers over the weekend, who came from reactivated Camp Adair. Judging by the number of strolling couples we would say that Salem girls are certainly fast workers.

Interpreting The War News

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
Associated Press War Analyst

The glee with which naval aviators spotted and pounced on holed-up Japanese warships hiding out at the Yokosuka base just inside Tokyo Bay can be imagined. It gave them their first opportunity to repay Pearl Harbor debts in kind.

It seems wholly unlikely, however, that any major element of what is left of Japan's surface fleet was moored under camouflage at Yokosuka. The whereabouts of such enemy battleships, plane carriers and heavy cruisers are still afloat in yet to be revealed. By every rule of logic and military axiom they must be elsewhere, probably in the Island sea. The fact that sea-mining operations at the wide twin southern entrances to the inland sea have been the frequent mission of B-29 bombers sufficiently indicates the view of the American high command as to where Japanese big surface craft are sweating it out.

Tokyo Bay under present circumstances is no more than a trap for any part of Japanese surface naval power holed up there.

Such Japanese ships as are lurking under cover in the inland sea could presumably effect suicide sorties through either of the two passages leading into the Pacific when the moment for that comes. Assuming that the initial phase of invasion of Japan should come on bomb-blasted Kyushu, the southernmost island where there is indication Japan's military rulers expect it, any enemy fleet remnants in the inland sea will continue to represent a real threat to successful landings until they are disposed of.

Closer-up advance air bases than have yet been acquired would seem to be an urgent allied necessity in preparation for a full scale invasion. The closer those bases can be established for tactical air support purposes to the selected main invasion sites the lower will be ground force casualties.

Aside from the Amami islands, half way between Okinawa and Kyushu, there are no island stepping-stones in the south that could materially advance the site of tactical air force takeoffs and refueling centers. Southeastern Kyushu, however, does contain a considerable stretch of low-lying shoreline and potential landing beaches not covered by island outposts as are the Kyushu shores on the west facing the east China sea.

Those eastern beaches are of at least sufficient extent for landing operations to secure advance air bases in southern Kyushu. Close-up air support for main landing forces aiming at Japan's industrial and military and political nerve centers on Honshu would be possible from southern Kyushu.

That probably is just what Tokyo war leaders expect, a two-phase invasion beginning on Kyushu and expanding later to Honshu. If so it is obvious that the shattered fleet strength they have been reserving so carefully for many months for sea as well as air attacks against invasion convoys must be in the inland sea.

Immediate invasion moves against Honshu are highly improbable due to weather and redeployment circumstances. Tokyo can feel no assurance nevertheless that limited purpose amphibious strikes into Kyushu might not come at any time.



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It Fizzled Out

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

SIX OF THEM, by Alfred Neumann, translated by Anatol Murad (Macmillan, \$2.75).

The expatriate German writer, now in this country, has taken for the subject of his latest novel six persons in Munich who are foes of Hitler and nazism.

As the story opens, four university students and a professor and his wife have been arrested. They are Sophia, her brother Hans, Christopher whom she loves, Alexander and Karl and Dora von Hennings. They are grilled by secret police and taken before the dreaded people's court for trial.

The action lasts only a day or so. But in the course of the state's inquisition, their lives unfold against the tragic background of the Germany which they love so passionately and which has been betrayed so vilely. We see first the circumstances of the police roundup... the six were involved in writing and distributing a manifesto actually issued by Munich student two years ago. Next we see the homes from which they came and the paths they followed to reach hostility to Hitler's third reich. And finally, depicted with great dramatic effectiveness, the verdict is pronounced.

These are six out of six million, Karl boasts. As the story develops, it is plain that there are more at least than six. They carry on the old Germany which won the respect and admiration of other peoples. That they survived even under Hitler persons of their intense devotion to liberty and freedom has been proved in the last decade by Nazi newspaper reports of trials and convictions. But if there had been six million, with the invincible determination of this hand, it seems likely that they might have stopped der Fuehrer by their own efforts.

The extent of opposition to Hitler in fact does not of course affect the value of the novel itself, which abounds in exciting situations and mounts to a gripping climax. But the story of such bold rebellion is not new, and in the specific case of Christopher, I get a faint whiff of the melodramatic. I'd rate it all a B plus.

Kenneth L. Dixon
DIXON
AT THE FRONT!

Roads in Europe
Now Cluttered With
Allied Sign Boards

By Kenneth L. Dixon

PARIS (delayed) (AP)—The Allied armies, which always go in for countless signs wherever they travel, now are taking advantage of the lack of combat activities really to turn their sign-painters loose.

Driving from Biamen, Germany, to Paris we found high-ways through Germany, Holland, Belgium and France dotted with signs in a manner reminiscent of the billboard business back home.

They concern occupation regulations, conduct for soldier traffic, instructions and other subjects. Since territories involved often are jointly operated, the signs are sometimes American and sometimes British—and quite often give the translation into whatever is the local language.

The British go in for plenty of traffic signals—often obscure to Yanks even yet—and when they think a road is dangerous they make no attempt to keep it a secret.

"Warning: bad road surface," will read the first sign of a series. Following it will be several more merely repeating that warning, then the wording will change to "Warning: surface slippery when wet." And then that may be repeated a few times.

Apparently there remains a doubt in their minds that you are properly impressed, so next comes a huge billboard saying flatly, "Warning: death trap road surface." And a few hundred yards farther, they wash their hands of you with: "You have been warned."

Lulled by an absence of signs for the next few miles you may shift into high gear again, when suddenly you are confronted with signs listing the number of highway casualties in this sector during the last week.



Kenneth Dixon

Brownell Says GOP Will Win Control of Congress in '46, Nation in '48 Election

DENVER, July 19.—(AP)—National Chairman Herbert Brownell, Jr., told approximately 400 Colorado republican leaders and members today the party would win control of congress in 1946 and "we shall have two years in which to audit the new deal" to prepare for a national triumph in 1948.

More Poultry Sought for Armed Forces

WASHINGTON, July 19.—(AP)—Agricultural department officials conferred today with members of the national poultry advisory committee on government plans for obtaining greater quantities of poultry meat for the armed services.

The proposal considered, but not acted upon, would require producers and processors in the mid-west to set aside about 50 per cent of the production for the military services.

Under a similar plan now in effect in major producing areas of the east and southeast, 70 per cent of the poultry marketings goes to the armed forces.

Recommendations of the poultry officials will be laid before Secretary of Agriculture Anderson, probably Saturday or Monday.

Silverton 4-H Winner Given Gold Watch

Richard Krenz, Silverton, winner of the 1944 4-H club regional award and now a member of the armed forces, was presented with a gold watch Thursday noon at the Salem Lions club, a gift from Mrs. Wahlgreen, Chicago head of a chain drug store system. The award was made by Gov. Earl Snell at the request of H. C. Seymour, state director of 4-H clubs.

Specifically the award was made for Krenz' leadership in a home beautification project in which youth from the entire nation participated. Krenz, Seymour pointed out, has been in 4-H work for eight years and taken part in 50 projects. In 1943 he entered a handicraft project and was one of two boys in the nation to win a \$200 scholarship award. In 1944 he was the regional winner in a food production project, securing a \$100 war bond.

Unable to attend the national meeting of the winners in Chicago because of being in the service he was awarded war bonds to the extent of the cost of the trip.

Salem Soldier Loses Claim

WASHINGTON, July 19.—(AP) President Truman has vetoed a bill proposing to pay Philip Kleinman, Salem, Ore., \$450 to cover medical and hospital treatment.

Kleinman, who served eight enlistments in the army, claimed damages for injuries suffered in a service baseball game. The president was advised by the war department and the veterans administration that the injury did not appear to have been incurred in, or aggravated by, military activities.

The president said he was informed that the legislation, if approved, would give a special benefit to one veteran not granted others and would establish a precedent for "thousands of similar claims" for non-service-connected disabilities.

'46 AAA Program Set

CORVALLIS, July 19.—(AP)—Oregon's AAA 1946 program will be similar to this year's, Chairman R. B. Taylor, back from Washington, said today. Farmers will have the same goal—all-out production, he said.

I do not put much faith in a single year of military training so far as defense is concerned. It may have disciplinary values, but I think we would find that the year's training of youth would be quickly lost, and soon the demand would be for two or three years of such training.

Moreover the tendency will be to train in terms of old wars, rather than new. Military drill and manual of arms have received scant attention when men were being trained for the real business of fighting. The emphasis was put on physical and mental conditioning, and specialized training which would have to be repeated from scratch in event of war.

I believe we would do a better job if we put more money into research and testing of weapons, if we built up our reserve force with annual training periods and our national guard. It was not so much a lack of trained manpower as ships and equipment which delayed us in this war. A strong enough army to serve as a holding force supplemented with a powerful airforce and navy to control the sea and air would seem to be the better defense plan.

We do not want to be unprepared, but I believe there are better ways to provide for our defense than by running youth through a single year of army.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



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—And with fearless courage we must root out those subversive elements who seek to undermine our jobs—Oh—Ahem—our Constitutional form of government!

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

present issue arose. Is it not better to look at national defense from more of a fresh viewpoint, studying our needs for adequate preparedness in the light of probable conditions?

One fact will stand out that until the world commotion subsides we will need to keep a substantial military force. Emotions stirred by war do not easily cool; and we will need ample strength until the cooling off period is over. We will have the strongest navy and the strongest air force in the world, and we should plan to keep them on the same comparative level. Likewise we do not want to let our army dwindle down to a paltry 130,000 men. Instead we should keep a trained regular army of from 500,000 to 1,000,000 men for some little time after V-J day.

More personal are the signs referring to venereal disease. "There is venereal disease here, too." Just in case the GI might have thought that was strictly an Axis ailment.

Taxpayers will be glad to know that one sign which recurs throughout Allied areas says: "Warning: Drivers must not carry civilians in war department vehicles"—indicating the army has no intention of having all that equipment and gas frittered away in fanciful pursuits.

The main difference between British and American wording in signs comes in such as these, which endeavor to keep traffic moving:

The British sign says, "If you must stop please get off the road."

The American, "Keep moving or get off the road."

Portland Eyes Elevated Roadways to Bridges

PORTLAND, July 19.—(AP)—A preliminary study of plans for two elevated roadways connecting Hawthorne and Morrison street bridges with southeast Portland was authorized today by the city council.

Mayor Riley said the project, if concluded, would realize "the prayers of 80 per cent of the population of Portland for the past 40 years." Commissioner W. A. Bowes was instructed to apply for a \$40,000 FWA loan to help finance the plans.

Youth Rescues Man

GRANTS PASS, July 19.—(AP) Robert W. Taylor, 15, of Murphy, was the town's hero today after he pulled 32-year-old Leland Willson from the Applegate river.

STEVENS'

Modern, Streamlined
Diamond Duo

Diamonds cleaned and checked regardless of where purchased.

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