

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher

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In the News Again

If there is, or ever was, anything which could be called normalcy, it would appear from recent stories that the nation, for good or bad, is again on the road to that state.

Snake charming religion, bank robberies, slayings, horse racing, civilian industry, fires and other banner-line columns of former days are getting increased space in the nation's press, and the old-time resourcefulness of the typical reporter soon may be brought into play under the goadings of city editors granted more space for domestic news.

The tricks of the trade are many, but there has not been much use for them, what with war and world news crowding out all but the extra special of the more "normal" news breaks. But the day of knock-down-drag-out battles for "scoops" or "beats" may be near at hand, with no more of this "off the record" business to hamper ingenuity and enterprise.

There will be "out of order" signs put on pay telephones by reporters who don't want their unwary opposition to get a story to the office first. There will be stops put in elevator doors so a rival can't get off at the proper floor until the interviewee there is "sewed up" by promises of cigars or a front-page space. Cameras will disappear, to be found later in perfect condition but much to late to interfere with an exclusive picture.

War-necessitated censorship, a shortage of paper, and the tremendous import of world news have cut sharply into the space left for the humdrum but interesting chronologies of peace-time days. And it will be months or years before any such news will gain the prominence it was accorded before Pearl Harbor. But the signs of its recurring virility are at hand.

"Sh-h-h! Quiet, Mortimer. That fellow with the pipe is with the press."

Powers of U. S. Delegate

A question has arisen over whether enabling legislation is required covering the appointment of an American representative to the assembly and security council of the United Nations. Senator Connally, chairman of the foreign relations committee, expressed the personal view that no such legislation is required, although he has made inquiry of the state department. Senator Vandenberg on the other hand takes the opposite stand, holding that legislation is necessary to qualify the delegate and to define his authority.

There ought to be no attempt to by-pass the congress on this important issue. Since the constitution vests in the congress the power to declare war, to raise and support armies and to make appropriations, the authority of our representative in the security council should not be left dangling in doubt. His power should be defined by the congress.

Not only does that seem necessary to satisfy our constitution, but it seems advisable from a practical standpoint. On grave matters such as possible involvement in war, a president or his representative dare not act alone. He must have the support of congress and of the country. Roosevelt was accused of getting this country into war. But except in the matter of the exchange of 50 old destroyers for leases to bases, he did not act alone. Congress voted the repeal of the neutrality legislation, the lend-lease appropriation, mobilization of the national guard, and selective service, before Pearl Harbor. In the future it is of the utmost importance to have the president and the U. S. delegate feel a responsibility to the congress.

It is impossible to predict the shifts and tides of international relations. It is conceivable that some situation might arise where this country would not want to join in some proposed war because it did not seem to be waged in a just cause. A delegate will be less likely to vote in favor of such participation if he knows that he could commit this government only to the use of some expeditionary police force and that the congress would have to approve full-scale action by our army and navy.

This does not mean to "ambush the Charter." It means that its powers should be reserved for use in righteous causes.

Editorial Comment

ERNEST BEVIN

The new British government has put its strongest man in charge of foreign affairs. He is Ernest Bevin, generally looked upon as the real leader of the British Labor party because he is the biggest man in British labor unions, a combination of our Green, Murray and Lewis all rolled into one.

Bevin is without previous direct experience in international affairs, but this need alarm no one. He is a veteran in politics, which is fundamentally the same trade whether one politicks in a labor union, a lodge, a church sewing circle, a congressional or parliamentary district or at Potsdam. He will know his way around. Only the striped pants and the monocle will be lacking and these are not essential.

It is encouraging to see the strongest man in the new government in this crucial post, for it means that we are likely to get prompt decisions. These may not be the ones we want, for Bevin is a Socialist who is likely to feel a closer kinship with Russia than with the United States, but better adverse decisions than none at all. The United States can take care of itself, but we do need to know as soon as possible where our major associates are going.

Bevin, incidentally, rendered his country a tremendous service during the German war as labor czar of the coalition government. Workers accepted dictation from him as they would have from no other because they had full confidence in him, and produced as they probably would have under so other leadership. It was only recently that American per capita war output overtook Britain's.—Baker Democrat Herald.

German War Losses

German data on war losses, kept "top secret," have been located by the allies. They show a total casualty list of 4,064,438 up to November 30 last. The death toll amounted to 1,911,300 against 1,173,700 Germans killed in the first world war. The total casualties then were listed at 7,142,558. When the losses from November to May are added there may not be a very great difference in the totals, while the number killed will be shown greatly in excess of the first world war.

Students of population will have to study the figures to decide whether German manpower has been permanently impaired by this terrible blood-letting, or whether with decent economic conditions Germany's strength in human bodies will be fully restored a quarter-century hence. Offhand we would say the drain of human blood is too great for quick restoration of military might. It is impossible for a nation to repeat every quarter-century the slaughter of its most fit on such a scale. It took France a long time to recover from the losses of the Napoleonic wars. With current low rates of reproduction it should take Germany much longer to revive. And the withdrawal of males for work in Russia or France will tend to reduce the birthrate.

While the allies ought not to trust only to Germany's population debility for their security, it certainly can be counted as a protection against early resumption of military aggression.

With Japan the situation is different. The losses there have not yet seriously impaired Japanese manpower, and the high birthrate of Japan will ensure a quick recovery from such population losses as may be incurred. That is one factor which must be considered when payday comes for the Japs.

Business Note—"Men's clothing will be tight for a few months, but then will ease." In time for steak dinners, we hope.

Interpreting The War News

By JAMES D. WHITE
Associated Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 1.—(AP)—Did Japan's Premier Suzuki reject the allied surrender ultimatum outright?

Study what he said and you may question the general assumption that he did. He probably meant to give that impression—that he threw it in the wastebasket and forgot about it and went back to his war-making. That would be for the Japanese people and anyone else interested in believing him.

For allied governments, however, his remarks contain overtones which easily can add up to: "Yours of July 26 received, and contents noted. No reply now due to pressure of business, etc." What Suzuki actually may have said, if anything, was filtered through the Tokyo radio. The broadcast was heard by the federal communications commission and released in part by the office of war information. Assuming the OWI gave out all important parts, here's the gist of what Suzuki said of the solemn American-Chinese-British warning to surrender now before it's too late: "The imperial Japanese government . . . will take no notice of the declaration."

"There is no change whatsoever in the fundamental policy of our government in regard to the prosecution of the war."

The joker here is the difference between what the Japanese government actually intends to do about prosecuting the war and what it says it will do. The state policy is to fight to the last. The actual policy, according to the most expert American analysis based on Japan's actions rather than her statements, is to drag the war out in the hope of getting a peace softer than the unconditional surrender which, since the Cairo declaration of 1943, informed Japanese have known they face. Japanese strategy and tactics bear this out. So do Japanese individuals who have surrendered recently.

This actual policy to drag the war out is to be carried on behind a smokescreen of the fiercest possible show that the determination to fight to the last is the real thing.

And it may well be the real thing. Japanese leaders, having talked themselves and everyone else concerned into believing that the Japanese people have the spirit to fight to the last, now have little choice but to carry that idea out in their every word and action. They know that the Japanese people either will or will not bear up under the strain that cracked the Germans. If the people can take it, that suits Japanese leaders because they know personally they're not going to be around very long if Japan loses the war. Should the Japanese people crack, then the militarists can say "we've been let down," which will satisfy some remote corner of their prideful personalities.

Premier Suzuki could hardly have given his people any intimation that he might be thinking about surrender. But nowhere in the statements attributed to him did he say specifically that his government rejected the details listed by the allies as to just what unconditional surrender is going to mean.

It is worth remembering that the ultimatum followed a Japanese propaganda broadcast complaining that the allies had not yet said exactly what unconditional surrender would mean to Japan. Now Japan knows.

And even knowing, her ruling classes—the imperial family, the wealthy clans, the military and naval cliques—can give no sign now that they can even entertain such ideas as the allies list: Japan's demilitarization, occupation, and de-industrialization as far as war potential is concerned.

To the Japanese, coming round to this point of admitting the inevitable is one of the most painful mental processes any segment of the human race has ever undergone.

Never in history has any people been so woefully unprepared for a defeat which their own leaders have led them into.

Germany had been defeated before. Japan, never.



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Information Please

The Literary News Behind the News

By W. G. ROGERS

By PAUL MALLON

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GENERAL EDUCATION IN A FREE SOCIETY, report of the Harvard Committee (Harvard University, 1945).

Under the chairmanship of Prof. Paul H. Buck of the faculty of fine arts and sciences at Harvard, a committee of 12 has been studying "the current educational system in the U. S." This volume consists of the findings and recommendations, a small part of it applicable mainly to Harvard, most of it of direct concern to everyone educated, or thinking he is, or wanting to be, or with children to educate. This is a new world, calling for an educational system adjusted to its peculiar needs. Inspiration, such as religion, which once underlay the student's aspirations, has been lost. The committee seeks a substitute. Diversity is essential, but it must be knit into some common, worthy and dynamic goal.

"The purpose of all education," says the committee, "is to help students lead their own lives," or, more technically, "to improve the average and speed the able while holding common goals before each."

Harvard has failed . . . in a general way this is their criticism of all education . . . to supply any "very substantial intellectual experience common to all Harvard students."

"They do not believe education can safely be left with those who see our culture solely through the eyes of formal religion"; they disapprove of a system based on "any one list of great books"; they are "suspicious of those empiricists who believe the truth is to be found only in experiment."

As a test of their theories, they ask hypothetically what a university should have contributed to this war. Some discovery or invention? Some technically trained persons? A great leader? Or "would it be thousands of humbler men, each responsible in his separate duty?"

There is an odd and unexpected word of warning in President Conant's introduction. You must read the entire book, he says, to get its full meaning. He issues his warnings not only to the lay public but also to specialists . . . as if he feared

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—Some of my socialist readers question my conclusion that free democratic capitalism adds a great volume of business to the national economy, perhaps 50 per cent, accounting for the much higher wage scale and better working conditions in this country over any other nation in the world, and my resulting contention that socialism of the Russian, Nazi, or the proposed British kind impedes that kind of progress.

This is a new world, calling for an educational system adjusted to its peculiar needs. Inspiration, such as religion, which once underlay the student's aspirations, has been lost. The committee seeks a substitute. Diversity is essential, but it must be knit into some common, worthy and dynamic goal.

Take a popular American soft drink. It is a simple example of a created business, where little or none would have existed under socialism, and its history is multiplied by the thousands of other products which are in daily use in our vast mass markets, solely because appetites of consumers were stimulated by advertising and incentive business selling methods, prompted by individual desire for profit. No other system yet conceived by man furnishes such economic stimulus in creating business.

The story of how a small Georgia soft-drink man, literally built his five cent product up into an international business involving hundreds of millions of dollars, is familiar. But I am not interested in the romantic side of it. The economic point which must be apparent to all, is that this business was wholly created, and furnishes employment and wages to a vast number of people, profit to them all

the educational system had failed so sadly in the past that it had not taught even professors themselves that a book must be read through, not merely skimmed.

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James L. Dixon AT THE FRONT! Jap Ambassador To Vatican Just Collects Bad News

By Edmund Laura Subbing for Kenneth L. Dixon

VATICAN CITY.—(AP)—The lone remnant of axis diplomacy to the Holy See, Japanese ambassador Ken Harada, faithful to the Nipponese tradition of taking note of everything visible, has become a rabid newspaper reader and photographer.

Four copies of every Italian newspaper available—there are 19 Roman dailies—as well as the "Stars and Stripes" and the "Union Jack," are purchased daily for Harada who reads them with the assistance of the embassy's secretary Masahide Kanayama, and clips out items which he deems of politico-military importance, such as Superfortress raids on Tokyo. The clippings then are filed scrupulously for future reference.

The ambassador also intensively employs his camera and the resulting pictures of Roman scenery follow the path of the clippings into the embassy's steadily growing archives.

Harada leads a solitary life.

He is the only foreign diplomat living in the Vatican, and he cannot leave the Vatican city. If he did, he would be arrested immediately as an enemy subject by the Italian government or allied MPs. His wife, who is a Catholic, regularly goes to the church of Santa Marta, near the governor's building in the Vatican. Long walks with his wife along the paths of the Vatican gardens and occasional visits to the Vatican museums constitute the ambassador's only outdoor diversion.

Food for the Japanese embassy is supplied through the administrative of the Vatican, and delicacies such as sharks fins, humming birds nests and the Japanese revolver, saki, have not delighted the palate of the ambassador for a long time.

So, now while GI's go swimming in the Mediterranean, and have cool drinks in Rome's cabarets which have been transformed into service clubs, Japanese Ambassador Harada tunes in Tokyo radio and listens to the news.

IT SEEMS TO ME (Continued From Page 1)

of the building, on some fair basis of rental.

UAL would locate the ticket-office at the westerly end of the field and the city would have to put in water mains and improve a short stretch of road to the county road running north and south on the westerly edge of the airport. The UAL proposal also asks the city to build a landing apron whose cost would run to an estimated \$27,000. If the airlines wants that location it ought to construct its own approach thereto.

I see no particular need for a city-owned administration building. The rentals would not amount to much. If Salem were like San Francisco or Chicago, an important junction point where many airlines converged, a single publicly owned building might be desirable, to avoid cluttering up the field with separate structures. Salem is not such a point and has no prospect of becoming one. At present only one line serves the city and an additional local line is recommended for licensing.

To sum up: the present sum of \$50,000 apparently is not enough to provide an adequate airport building; the money probably will be needed for further airport improvements beneficial to the city. By permitting UAL to build the structure the public will be well served, the city will get some rental from the land and at the end of 20 years the structure will revert to the city. Subject to the requirement that UAL build its own ramp or apron, its proposition seems to be one the city might advantageously accept.

ies to employ everyone. More workers then will get less of a share in less business—that is all socialism would mean. It is purely a share-the-work arrangement—sharing of less work.

This unemployment angle was never an economic capitalistic gravity commensurate with the political attention directed to it. At the depth of our worst depression our free spending labor government counted 9,000,000 unemployed and directed the whole economy of the nation to that segment, emblazoning the problem on the front pages daily, but never mentioning that there were 45,000,000 then employed—five times as many people working, paying taxes, contributing to the support of the unemployed, without a government thought wasted in their interest. There

employed in the most active American business periods—men between jobs, the lame, sick, faltering and those not apt or inclined to apply themselves, many deserving, many not.

That a whole national economy, a whole political system, should be turned over and destroyed to give them jobs—that the interests of 3,000,000 people should prevail above 130,000,000—is absurd.

Not even socialistically despotic Russia distributes her jobs on the basis of "need" any more. She has come to think in terms of efficiency, ability, effort and productivity. A nation cannot operate well otherwise. The socialists are thinking in terms of old fashioned new dealism which never encouraged sound economic.

Now Britain proposes through her labor government to use the people's money to buy public utilities and other industries, which already are controlled in the people's interest as to rates, prices, charges, finances, etc. Why buy what you already control?

Carload Meat Rate Reduction Delay Sought

Shipped in reducing rates on meats shipped in carload lots from the mid-west to the Pacific coast has been asked by Public Utilities Commissioner George Flagg in a petition filed with the interstate commerce commission.

Flagg asks that the effective date of the reductions be delayed from September 10 to January 10. Many stockmen and grange officials have opposed the rate reduction on the ground that the mid-west would flood the Pacific coast markets which would result in a pile up and decrease in livestock production throughout Oregon. Original reduction approved by the commission was 35 per cent.

Flagg said he wanted more time to study the new rate and give consideration to other aspects of the situation.

Timbermen Protest Tax

A group of Coos county timber owner appeared before the state tax commission here Wednesday and protested vigorously against the assessment of their properties as fixed by the Coos county board of tax equalization.

The group argued that their timber assessments had been raised approximately 100 per cent, which was unfair and unreasonable under present conditions.

Under the law, property owners who are dissatisfied with the assessment of county equalization boards may appeal to the state tax commission for final consideration.

The final engagement of the War of 1812 was the battle of New Orleans.

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"Who else in Washington can we contact with our offer of 26 weeks in vauville for the first war criminal who's found not guilty?"

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

APPRECIATE SALEM To the Editor:

The men of Camp Adair would like to voice a hearty appreciation for the warm and charitable welcome shown them by the residents of Salem and surrounding vicinities.

The overwhelming hospitality of Associate Justice Brand and his wife who claim an only son in the army themselves, typifies the admirable Oregonian spirit which will not soon be forgotten by Adairmen.

The Brands treated a group of us men as might old friends and their unflinching efforts in making us feel at home has instilled a feeling of great indebtedness. Thus we would like to publicly acknowledge our gratitude to these whole-hearted people who are fitting examples of many other benevolent Oregonians.

Sincerely yours, Private John O'Mara, New York City, N. Y.; Private Dominick M. Schiavone, Brooklyn, 17, N. Y.; Pvt. John J. Davaro, Philadel-

phia, Pa.; Pvt. Ben. J. Lesko, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Pvt. Frank P. O'Neill, Brooklyn, 15, N. Y.; Co. D, Fifth Ba., 2nd Rgt., Camp Adair.

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