

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Settling a War

You don't just settle a war by stopping the shooting. You have to make sure that both sides stop using their firearms, permanently, and that takes a lot of formalities. When Japan's official offer of surrender reached Washington, by the round-about diplomatic channel of Stockholm, Washington could not say yes or no right off. Not only did the president and his advisers have to ponder the query and make up their minds, but also they had to consult the allied nations.

Consultation takes time. You can't just do this business over the trans-oceanic telephone as though you were buying a cargo of wheat. Assuming that Washington drafted the text of a reply, then it would need to be transmitted, probably by cable, to the other capitals. It would probably go by code and have to be decoded on receipt, and then translated at Chungking into Chinese and in Moscow into Russian. London can read our language, though we can't understand Cockney speech. The replies follow a similar route of translation and coding and transmission and decoding.

So it does take some time. Meantime, we are told that bombing of Japan was suspended for the day yesterday. No one wants to be killed if the war is over, and those in the trade are glad for a day off, too.

We should not have long to wait, though. Surely by some time Saturday President Truman can announce the text of the allied reply.

Even if the Jap offer is accepted, the war will remain to be closed up, and that will take many months, months of occupation of enemy lands, of negotiation, of return of armed forces to the homeland and demobilization. What we are eager for is word that the shooting has really stopped. We can afford to be patient over the remaining formalities of winding up the war business.

Reconversion

The war plainly is drawing to an end—but don't rush for the exits. Don't think, just the moment that V-J day is proclaimed, that you can get all the sugar you want, all the gasoline, all the transportation. It's going to take time to get back to normal.

But early peace will precipitate the country's economy into a mess as industry tries to extricate itself from war work, as war workers find jobs melting away, as returning veterans seek housing and employment. Once more peace is busting in our faces, sooner than we expected. There will be an inevitable scramble for position as individuals and companies and bureaus seek to get readjusted.

In Washington there has been reproach because congress did little in the way of legislating on domestic matters for the period ahead. Most of its time was given to the international issues. It may be that with peace, congress will rush pell-mell back to the capital and start grinding out legislation for peacetime conditions. However, the most important bills under consideration, like "full employment" and social security, are not such that can be rushed through—the country is not altogether sure of its policy on some of these issues.

As we see it, there is no need to get panicky. Best authorities feel that though there may be a short period of distress before industry gets back on civilian operations there is enough demand to keep the country prosperous for a five-year term. The U. S. A. took the war in stride. It ought to be able to take peace in stride, without falling over itself.

CIO workers have done a pretty fair job of obeying the no-strike pledge but now they are striking in the big Weyerhaeuser pine operation in Klamath county and in other pine mills. Will the war's ending be a signal for touching off a series of strikes? Maybe it's too much to expect that labor and management can get sense enough to settle differences by peaceful bargaining. Mankind just seems to be built for combat.

Editorial Comment

CONSTRUCTIVE CONSERVATION POLICY

In recent years Willamette valley farmers have been enjoying a good cash return through the sale of cover crop seeds, most of which have gone to rebuild the land of the south and to protect against further erosion.

Willamette valley farmers have felt somewhat superior in that they were contributing to the rebuilding of soil fertility which had been destroyed by soil mining one-crop agriculture. National wealth in the form of soil fertility in the south has over a period of years suffered from intense heat which burns out important elements of the soil. Sudden heavy rains which wash away unprotected top soil have completed the destruction.

However, it is not only in the south that soil fertility is being, or has been, wasted away. A glance at most any stream at time of flood will give evidence of a large amount of sediment, which represents the best top soil of the land.

It is with the object in view of saving some of the top soil of the Tillamook burn area now being swept again by fire that a conference of state forestry, agricultural and government leaders will be held in Forest Grove Friday morning.

As well as shipping winter legume and grass seeds to all parts of the nation, Oregon might well take some of its own medicine at home and protect its soil resources found in the Tillamook burn area. While the land will never be used for agricultural purposes, the soil will not speed the growth and nurture of trees, if it is washed down the numerous streams with the rains.

Fire, largely the result of human carelessness, has dissipated a great resource. First the timber was burned and now the areas which re-seeded have lost several years of growth as the result of another fire. The tragedy of waste should stop. We look forward hopefully to the conference on Saturday bringing forth some program of constructive conservation.—Forest Grove News-Times.

Nuisance Methods

The tactics used by Salem Electric alienate public sympathy. Twice denied a franchise by voters of the city, it overrides local ordinances by hooking onto poles of other utilities serving the city and then inviting the city to start suit to test this usage. We do not see that any suit is necessary—merely a pair of wire-cutters used by linemen of the companies which own the poles. For what Salem Electric is doing, is trespassing on property rights of other companies. Perhaps it is by nuisance methods such as this that Manager Reed hopes to break down local resistance to a franchise for his duplicating operation. He will find that such methods arouse public antagonism rather than sympathy.

Improvement

This from the 50-Years-Ago column in the Pendleton East Oregonian:
Editorial: "A Salem editor has written an editorial six columns long. One copy of the paper containing it will put a man to sleep. It is a sure cure for insomnia."
The name of the Salem editor or paper isn't given; but if it was The Statesman we can claim improvement in half-a-century. We get the same effect with half-a-column.

Those who said in 1940 that our navy could finish off Japan in 90 days will not appreciate being reminded that Tuesday was the third anniversary of the landing of the marines on Guadalcanal. It took the Japs only about eight months to pour from Formosa down through the Philippines to Singapore, the Dutch East Indies and the Solomons. Deprived of our bases and with our fleet knocked out at Pearl Harbor it has taken us three years to beat our way back to Japan's gates. The schedule shows how tedious and difficult the task has been.

Detroit faces the possibility of a Frankensteen for mayor. Richard T. Frankensteen, CIO labor leader, led the field in the mayoralty primaries, running ahead of the incumbent, Mayor Jeffries. Frankensteen was one of the early organizers of the auto workers' union, was slugged by Ford's guards when he tried to pass out union literature at the Ford plant. Frankensteen polled his heaviest vote in industrial areas. In the election in November he will run against Mayor Jeffries.

Interpreting The War News

By JAMES D. WHITE
Associated Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 10 (AP)—The "if" in Japan's surrender offer is a big one because the emperor is both a religious and a politico-military institution.

In saying they will give up if the emperor retains his powers Japanese government leaders unquestionably mean both functions. Hirohito, to the Japanese, is God and also Japan. Conquests have been carried out in his name, and war crimes committed without his overt reprimand.

That's the trouble. We say we will allow religious freedom in Japan, and the Japanese promptly ask us to let them keep their god. We shouldn't forget that to them he is also Japan.

It is reasonable to suppose that the Japanese government would like us to forget just that.

Few Americans will forget, however, even in their desire to be fair and allow Japan the religious freedom promised at Potsdam.

American policy thus far has been to refrain from saying, one way or another, whether the emperor had to go. China is pretty well convinced he must; Britain thinks he ought to say; Russia hasn't said exactly. The idea behind the American attitude was that the emperor might serve as a rallying point to prevent chaos in defeated Japan, saving the lives involved in a longer war and a bloody occupation. In fact Japanese garrisons all over Asia might not surrender readily unless they had a face-saving order from the emperor to do so.

But now the Japanese themselves ask us what about the emperor. It seems likely, on the basis of what has been said, that to end the war allied governments may agree on a nominal accession to the Japanese request, allowing the emperor to stay on but with no commitment as to his eventual role for any limitation on allied authority to decide about that in the end.

This might forestall the possible—even likely—Japanese intention to play upon our eagerness to end the war and avert chaos in the peace.

The danger lies just there, that we allow the Japanese to feel they are getting away with anything.

If they get that idea, they would be encouraged to plan for a future revival of Japanese fighting spirit, for the chief institution around which this spirit was built in the past was the institution of the emperor.

The deadly thing about this was not the religious aspect, but the feeling it gave Japanese militarists that they were doing divine work which could not be questioned because they were working for a divine being. They felt that no one—particularly civil or international authority—had any right to tell them what they could or could not do.

As they were greedy, cruel men they went ahead and did as they pleased. The regimented, thoroughly mis-educated Japanese people followed them.

Individual Japanese, being enslaved, in the end welcomed or at least accepted this state of things. Japan was divine, therefore each Japanese became a superman to the extent he fulfilled the divine word.

My personal observation was that most Japanese liked the feeling.

Now, even in defeat, Japan's leaders may be trying to keep the genesis of this situation going. If the emperor is kept on, the big job will be to keep that tendency under control.



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The Best Argument for Peace

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

SAINTS AND STRANGERS, by George F. Willison (Reynal & Hitchcock; \$3.75).

Just three and a quarter centuries ago this summer and fall, the Pilgrims left their homes in Leyden and, joining other Englishmen recruited in London, sailed for this country and landed on Dec. 21 in Plymouth.

They paid a heavy price to found a colony in the new world. Unhappily, they have continued to pay a heavy price; it was their luck to be interpreted for us by colorful, moralizing Victorians who pictured them as sufferably sanctimonious when in reality they were lusty Elizabethans who happened also to be stalwart Christians.

If the last you read about the dauntless band which sailed in the Mayflower was in grammar school, Willison has a lot of surprises for you; and it should be added that he writes with his heart in it and sharpens a phrase until it can draw blood.

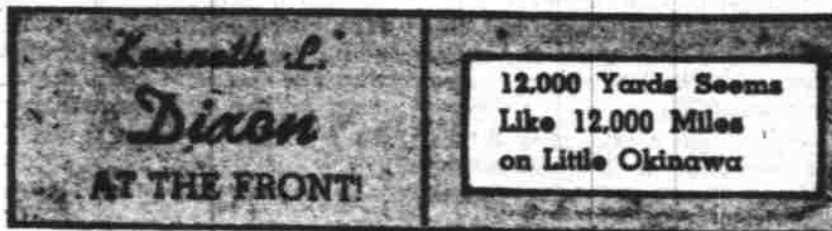
The Pilgrims, or Brownists, originally from Scrooby in England, fled to Amsterdam. After some shocking licentiousness, or accusations of it, one group withdrew to Leyden.

The 1620 voyage to America, 66 days from Plymouth to Plymouth, was made by the Pilgrims, who are Willison's "saints," and non-Pilgrims, many of them religious conformists, who are his "strangers."

The famed Mayflower compact was not a great equalitarian document but an establishment of minority rule aimed at thwarting the "strangers" in their determination to enjoy their own brand of liberty.

It is doubtful whether Plymouth Rock, as we see it today, is anything more than a symbol, and it is certain that it is now a lot of pieces of stone that may never have been all one.

The morals of the forefathers were not above reproach: even Peregrine White, "first white child born in America," was to be accused and convicted of laxity. And of course Mrs. Hemans was wrong in saying the



By Max Desfor

(Subbing for Kenneth L. Dixon)

OKINAWA—(Delayed)—(AP)—I've been out hunting Japanese. Not alone, of course; I went out with the men who know the business. I was out on patrol with company A, First battalion, 108th regiment of the 27th division, the division that's doing the mopping up on northern Okinawa.

Going out on patrol on mopping up operations doesn't sound like much, but it's the toughest, roughest job I've ever worked on. By the map our patrol went about 12,000 yards from the east to the west coast. As the infantryman goes it was about 20 miles of a slow, tortuous, foot-aching, back-breaking march.

It seems to me that two pairs of everything would be a tremendous help. One set of eyes to watch your footing and another set to keep an alert on the side trails and thick underbrush. One pair of hands to keep the gun ready and the other to help climb the terrain. Four legs to keep going.

This is no ordinary march. There is rarely a stretch of level ground. The trails are deep ruts and the men walk by placing one foot directly in front of the other. They walk through streams up to their knees and climb over slippery rocks and up rocky walls with nothing to hold on to but imagination.

Your pack feels as if it was loaded with rocks. You're soaked in sweat and the belt around your waist digs into your bones. Nothing is said on the march. Every breath is precious. When we stop for a few minutes the men drop in line and relax on the damp ground or under the blazing sun.

Pilgrims came in a "bark," landed on a "stern and rock-bound coast" or even sought "freedom to worship God" for in fact they had enjoyed that freedom in Leyden.

By Lichty

GRIN AND BEAR IT



The Chief's trying out a new method for confessions he learned from a psychiatrist.

Flashes of Life

OGDEN, Utah—(AP)—City commissioner William D. Wood was absent from a commission meeting with good cause.

Explained Mayor David S. Romney:
"He can't walk because of his knee and he can't use crutches because of his fractured arm." Wood was tossed from a horse and injured.

VINCENNES, Ind.—(AP)—With thoughts of the Pacific still fresh in his mind, a just-retired home veteran walked into police headquarters today and said a Japanese warplane was passing over the city at a height of about 25,000 feet.

The police called nearby George Field, III, and the veteran was right. A Jap Zero from George Field was at that moment flying over the city on an experimental flight.

TRENTON, N. J.—(AP)—A harassed bus driver whose passengers were following the old American tradition of congregating near the front of the bus tried a new tack today.

Discarding the simple pleas used by all bus drivers, he shouted:
"Free beers to the rear, folks!" The passengers moved to the back of the bus.

Million Americans May Be Needed to Occupy Jap Isles

By Jack Bell

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10 (AP)—More than a million Americans may be required for the immediate occupation of Japan once the Japanese surrender is final.

High government officials said today United States forces unquestionably will have to move in first to disarm and police the Japanese home islands. Russian troops probably will take over in Manchuria, Korea and the island of Sakhalin, which they have shared with the Japanese.

Bumper Crop Predicted by Agriculturists

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10 (AP)—The third largest general food and feed crop in this country's history was forecast for 1945 by the department of agriculture today.

Corn prospects especially showed "marked improvement" during July.

Based on August 1 conditions, the total crop output for this year now promises to exceed the 1923-32 average by 21 per cent, but it would be 2.5 per cent below record productions of 1942 and 1944. It would be four per cent more than the 1945 total, however, and eight per cent above the aggregate production of any other year.

Agriculture officials admittedly had been concerned over prospects for corn production, needed badly for livestock feed and for food and manufacturing plants.

Favorable weather in July increased the prospects and on the basis of August 1 conditions, the board forecast a corn crop of 2,844,478,000 bushels compared with its July 1 prediction of 2,685,328,000 and last year's production of 3,228,361,000.

Josephine County Hop Picking to Start

GRANTS PASS, Aug. 20 (AP)—Hop picking starts in Josephine county Aug. 13, and will be in full swing ten days later, C. W. Thornberry, farm labor assistant, said today.

He said 20 yards will be entirely hand-picked while 12 yards will be either partially or fully machine-picked. Six new portable hop pickers are on order but not delivered.



(Continued From Page 1)

though it has suffered longest from the Japanese it may insist on the elimination of the emperor as a precaution for its own future safety. Russia may think that the ousting of Japan from the continent is victory enough, for Russia is tired of war, too.

The possible alternative which must be considered is continued Japanese resistance making necessary costly invasion. America thinks in terms of lives of Americans and President Truman and his advisers must decide whether it is better to take the risk of having to pay a high price now, or the risk of having to fight the Japanese war over again because of the survival of the emperor-cult. For better, for worse, the decision rests with the heads of the four states. The people must accept their conclusion.

My own opinion is that if the condition is rejected the Japs will quickly surrender anyway. The emperor himself, if he has any mind of his own, will not want safety of his person to bring the impending annihilation of hundreds of thousands of his subjects. On the other hand, I do not think his remaining on the throne will be much of a future menace. When this war ends Japan will be finished, emperor or no emperor. The divinity myth has suffered a blow it will hardly survive, especially if freedom of thought is allowed the Japanese.

The emerging power of Soviet Asia and China will be fully able to police Japan—and the United States will not suffer another Pearl Harbor.

The Potsdam surrender ultimatum of July 26 said key points in Japan would be held until its war-making power is destroyed and the terms of the U.S.-British-Chinese 1943 Cairo declaration for the dismemberment of the empire are carried out.

Because they are closest to the main islands, troops under General Douglas MacArthur, with some marine and naval detachments, are expected to make up the original occupation force.

If present plans are followed, these troops probably will occupy seven of Japan's principal cities, maintaining only nominal control over the rural areas.

The formal arrangements for the more permanent control of Japan still are a Big Three secret, but the speculation here is that individual Japanese islands may be assigned later for occupation by the United States, Great Britain, China and Russia.

If Emperor Hirohito is allowed to stay, the expectation is the allies would merely step into the place which has been occupied by Japanese army leaders in recent years, laying their orders before the emperor for his automatic signature.

In such event, the form of sovereignty exercised by the emperor would be followed, with the allies actually ruling Japan just as they rule Germany. This route could be used to carry out the objectives laid down in the Potsdam surrender ultimatum which the Japanese say they are willing to accept.

41st Infantry Division Gets Many Honors

HEADQUARTERS, 41ST DIVISION, Philippines, Aug. 10 (AP)—The "Jungleers" of the northwest's famed 41st infantry division won a total of 484 decorations for heroism or conspicuous achievements in battle during the recently concluded Sulu archipelago-south Philippines campaign. Of the awards, 36 were made posthumously.

One Distinguished Service cross was given, four Legions of Merit, 50 Silver Stars, nine Soldier's medals, 391 Bronze Star medals, and 29 Air Medals.

Additionally, 958 Purple Hearts were issued, 227 posthumously.

During the 40 months the 41st has served under General MacArthur in the far Pacific, the division's veterans have been awarded 2247 individual decorations and 8131 Purple Hearts.

Commissioner Plans To Raise Vet Age Limit

PORTLAND, Aug. 10 (AP)—City Commissioner Fred L. Peterson proposed tonight to submit for the next May primary election a charter amendment which would raise the age limit on applicants for police and fire department jobs for war veterans.

In a letter to the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, he asked support of a plan to boost the top age limit by five years for the city's civil service positions.

Northwest Potato Sale Boost Planned

PORTLAND, Aug. 10 (AP)—Plans to boost sales of surplus northwest potatoes were mapped today by the food industry advisory committee of the U.S. department of agriculture.

A surplus was caused by cancellation of army contracts, refrigerator car shortage, early ripening due to hot weather and unusually large acreages, USDA said.

Advertisement for Identification Bracelet. Text includes: "A MAN IS KNOWN BY THE Identification Bracelet HE WEARS!", "Sterling - - Others - Gold and Gold Plated", "EXTENDED PAYMENTS", and a logo for "STEVENS & SON MANUFACTURING JOEWELRY 329 Court St."