

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Let's Get Together Again

The trail of the test tubes is so paved with contradictory hopes and fears in the day-to-day news as to leave John Q. Citizen all but breathless in regard to what he can expect in the way of obstacles to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

First we're told that atomic energy can destroy the world but that we hold the sole key. Then we're informed other nations were on the verge of a similar discovery and that they'll find the formula, too, within a short time. Now congress hears we're already developing a defense to detonate such bombs long before they reach our borders.

It's all very interesting, very awesome, very discouraging, depending on how a person looks at it. Boiled down, all such information adds up to but one fact—that there is in the possession of mankind a power capable of opening the flood-gates to total world destruction. Scientific defense at its best, no matter how perfected, can hardly mean more than a delaying action—and a bloody one, at that—if the will to power transcends the will to live in the years to come.

If that premise can be accepted, where in the day-to-day news, we ask, are stories of the only possible, practical and permanent plan of self-preservation—the development of worldwide justice and understanding? It is not enough to know that Bevin and Molotov still have hopes of reaching an accord which failed to find fruition in London. It is not enough to read of the nation-by-nation ratification of the United Nations charter.

Isolationism as a principle is dead. But self-interest has shown a discouraging resurgence, even in the face of atomic proof that "united we stand, divided we fall," and it seems high time there was a more personal and lasting contact between representatives of the United Nations.

We must take full cognizance of General Marshall's warning to "prepare or perish" and let the test tubes do their best. But it's even more important that we continue to keep nations from withdrawing into their shells and building up the "Uncle Shylock" psychology of 25 years ago.

Even if delegates were given no momentous issues to discuss, it would be a move in the right direction to have Giuseppe, Jean, Ole, Rudolfo, John and other typical names sleeping under the same roof and talking over such things as baseball, soccer, fishing, new cars and the price of eggs. The world's eyes again should be on a world exchange of views, such as at San Francisco, rather than on the atomic bomb.

No Confiscation in England

When the bolsheviks got control of Russia 28 years ago they proceeded to take over banks and all industries by the simple expedient of sending in some soldiers and shooting off the wicked bourgeoisie. The British labor government which is headed in the same direction as the bolsheviks, though on a parallel road, goes at nationalization of the famed Bank of England with no shedding of blood. There is not even any letting of financial blood, for the owners are given government securities which promise them an annual income equal to the average annual gross dividend of the bank over the past 20 years. The ordinary stockholder suffers only the loss of his speculative chance

Editorial Comment

IT COULD HAPPEN AGAIN

One of the things that contributed to the crash in the "roaring twenties" was the "half boom, half broke" condition that prevailed then.

Many persons may have forgotten, during the prosperous years we have had of late, but for an extended period after the last war industry was soaring to new highs while agriculture was drifting to new lows. Wages, profits and dividends in industrial centers seemed to have no limit. The stock market was in the stratosphere.

Yet, all the time the prices for wheat, cotton, corn and livestock were sinking. The entire world was seeking self-sufficiency with each country trying to meet its own food requirements and cut imports to a minimum.

Well, it could happen again; not soon, but within the next four or five years. At least we have the same setting. Industry is all ready to hum, once the strike situation is clarified. Industrial labor probably will receive at least a 15 per cent wage increase, if not the 30 per cent now demanded. When reconversion has been completed and the factories are turning out a tremendous flood of finished products, our industrial areas will be riding high.

Next let us consider agriculture. Subsidies will be ended next year, it has been announced. We have a tremendous surplus of wheat. Farmers have been assured parity prices for at least two years after the end of the war—which means after President Truman has issued his formal proclamation. But what will happen then?

We still have meat rationing, yet the greatest rush of livestock in history now is rolling to market. Prices may hold up for a few more years, but after subsidies are abandoned the future definitely is uncertain.

"King Cotton" still is riding high but many other countries—notably Brazil—also are concentrating on the production of cotton. They have lower labor costs than the American South, although the perfection of mechanical cotton pickers may help equalize this disparity.

Corn, potatoes, produce, fruits, huts, dairy products? All now are yielding various degrees of profit, although potatoes and dairy products are on the "ragged edge." But the time may come when over-production results in ruinous prices, in at least some of these lines.

These are but a few of many examples that could be cited. No one assumes that agriculture is due for a "bust" overnight, or even in the next several years. But the surplus problem will be with us again, eventually, and if industrial prices are high and farm prices are low—well, remember what happened in 1929?—The Dallas Chronicle.

at increases in the bank dividend but he is also spared the chance at decrease in the dividend. So he can't protest very much.

While the Bank of England has been a private corporation actually it has been a quasi-public institution, working closely with the chancellor of the exchequer and the government trade officials. It has resembled roughly our own federal reserve system in acting as the fiscal agent of the government, and our federal reserve has had private banks as its stockholders.

The change in England will put the government firmly in the saddle, which means that it can use the bank as the vehicle for financing its further nationalization of industries such as coal mines and railroads. The history of government-controlled central banks has not been good. The politicians fail to pay heed to the rules of economics and their bank becomes involved in bad financial practices. The argument for private control of central banks, such as the Bank of England, is that control rests with men who understand finance and keep out the political dreamers and raiders. If any people can make a government-controlled central bank work it would be the British because of their long experience in financial management, their inbred conservatism and their traditional integrity in financial matters. What we may see is that the government will confirm the present management of the bank and not attempt political interference. However, if the Laskis and the socialists have their full way the Bank of England will function merely as the tool of the treasury to usher in the socialist age in Britain.

The American critics of the labor government should get over their first fears. Nationalization in Britain doesn't mean confiscation and it doesn't mean extermination—not yet.

Shirtmakers are now permitted by WPB to put back the three inches they cut off of shirt-tails. Since we have to wait to get any shirts at all we might as well wait and get some that do not terminate just below the arm-pits.

Interpreting The War News

By JAMES D. WHITE
Associated Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 12. (AP)—Manchuria, breadbasket of Asia and the nearest thing to an industrial base in all the east, seems in something of an uproar.

This much is clear from the account by a jittery Frenchman who caught a plane out of Mukden, Manchuria's Pittsburgh. His account has been cabled back by Associated Press Correspondent Spencer Davis from Peiping.

The nervous Frenchman, M. Renner, had been consul-general in Mukden. He said the Russians gave him 36 hours to get out.

It is impossible to say how much salt should be taken with this account, but here is the gist of it, throwing possible light on what has gone on in one of the most important areas in Asia since Japan surrendered.

First, Japan's puppet Chinese troops revolted the same day it was announced Manchuria would revert to China. That was August 17.

A puppet governor generally formed a provisional government and sent a message of loyalty to Chungking two days later. That night Soviet troops arrived.

Somewhere—one suspects the Japanese because they have done it elsewhere—threw open Japanese army warehouses to the public, which started a wave of looting which spread to civilian homes.

August 20, General Marionovsky of the Russian red-army accepted Japanese surrender, but Chinese laborers continued looting and raping. M. Renner relates the old oriental tale, sometimes true, of Japanese girls shaving their heads and dressing like men to save themselves.

The situation got worse, with shooting going on all around by anyone who could find a gun. The Soviet commandant issued an anti-looting order and tightened his control as he got more troops.

Enter now what called itself the Chinese communist eighth route army, swarming in from the hills of Jehol and Liaoning where the Japanese had never been able to subdue either communists, bandits or Manchurian guerrillas.

Two groups appeared, one headed by a General Chung Chiu-ling, and another by a General Li Lung-chang, both claiming to be Chinese red leaders.

They competed in recruiting former puppet soldiers to whom they gave Japanese arms. It is impossible to tell which force, if either, is genuine. But it may be significant that General Chung's name was on a poster which was put up demanding the release of the former Manchurian war lord, the young Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang.

The young marshal never was a communist, although his troops kidnapped Chiang Kai-shek in 1936 at Sianfu in a strange sequence which resulted in an agreement between the generalissimo and the communists to unite against Japanese aggression. Since then the young marshal has been Chiang Kai-shek's prisoner somewhere in free China.

Chung No Red Either
So it may be that this General Chung is no red either, but a former subordinate of the young marshal who says he is red because he thinks that will please the Russians.

In any case the Russians wearied of all this and Oct. 2 told the Chinese communist troops—real or phony—to pull out of Mukden and disband. They stopped railway traffic, apparently to prevent large-scale movements of these ill forces.

That's M. Renner's story, and he adds that the Russians are now ripping out Japanese machinery and sending it to the Ukraine via the trans-Siberian railway.

If true, this would be a serious charge, and one which could strain the recent series of treaties between China and Russia.



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The Only Thing Checking Its Progress is the Direction

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

A FELLOW OF INFINITE JEST, by Thomas Yoceloff (Prentice-Hall, \$3).

A fervent desire to win more readers for Laurence Sterne, author of the incomparable "Tristram Shandy" and "Sentimental Journey," inspired the author of this biography of one of the greatest English writers.

Few purposes could be more commendable. Sterne, an inept name for a genius so merry and playful, has suffered from a Victorian prudishness which present generations do not share. Our illogical squeamishness which oddly does not extend to Rabelais, has attempted to hide from our children something which was probably no news at all to them, and has succeeded only in depriving us of the delight which we are entitled to get from one of the joys of our literature.

Certainly Sterne used his pen to have fun with the facts of life; apparently he was not faithful to his wife. Conceding all that, he still created superb characters... or copied them from York... in Tristram, the Widow Wadman, Uncle Toby and Tristram's father. And where can you find a zany bit of fiction so profound, so hilarious or so modern, though it's more than a century and a half old, as the incident of Walter Shandy and his clock?

Yoceloff is perhaps a shade apologetic in places where I should prefer his attitude to be what-the-heck, but he is an eager advocate, and a conscientious one. On what is perhaps the most serious of all charges brought against Sterne: that he borrowed other men's words and phrases without giving credit for them, the biographer exonerates him. Sterne might steal a wife, but never a word.

THE MANATEE, by Nancy Bruff (Dutton, \$2.50).

Jabez Folger, sea captain of Nantucket's whaling years, is the demonic figure dominating this story of love and hate, begetting and killing. There's plenty of action, but it's mechanically contrived and every character is as wooden as the single-breasted figurehead on Folger's ill-fated ship.

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 11—People have written me asking an explanation of the strange new tactics of Russia in diplomacy.

Izvestia represents an escapist Russian technique for expressing official announcements. The Izvestia editorial was just as official as the Byrnes statement. The soviet foreign office does not dare or care to take direct responsibility for its position, but goes to the extent of hiding Stalin's views visible, right before your eyes, in the guise of an editorial. This is a sort of legerdemain in which the magician stands with his back to the audience so all can plainly see whence the rabbits come, yet we and the Russian people are supposed to pretend we do not know.

These deceptions represent what American scientists might term a childlike personality. The Russian mind is not childlike, but it is preponderantly a slavish type of mind, and therefore an emotional mind, one easily given to mysticism. It is furthermore a peasant mind which further accentuates its slavish qualities. It can write bitter, dark literature, but the amount which ever attained the quality as mild classics is small. Nor has it developed any great art. Offhand I cannot recall a single world masterpiece which is Russian.

Typical Russian Style
In typical Russian style Izvestia launched out with a tirade about a conspiracy between Britain and the United States to "unload the guilt of failure from a sick head to a healthy one." Now they could not have dared this pretense without leaving out the most important basic facts.

Such palpable and plain deceptions are naturally something new in major diplomacy into which Russia has now come with a loud voice.

To understand the tone and technique you must first realize that Izvestia is not a newspaper. An editorial taking the same

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



Now, Old—You know you never went to college—put down that bottle and stop pretending you're an alumnus!



By Kenneth L. Dixon
MANILA, Oct. 12. (AP)—"One of the biggest problems in this case," said an erstwhile lawyer who was an observer at the indictment of Lt. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita for countless atrocities in the Philippines, "will be to keep a sharp line drawn between moral guilt and legal guilt."

"There is no question in anybody's mind of Yamashita's moral guilt -- but as yet the courts haven't started hanging men for moral guilt. If a man rapes a girl and she subsequently commits suicide, then you and I know he is morally guilty of murder. But we only can convict him of rape."

"Unless we are planning to set up a brand new type of legal procedure for these war criminal trials -- and maybe that wouldn't be too bad an idea -- then regardless of Yamashita's moral guilt it is going to be necessary to definitely establish his personal and legal responsibility for one or more of these atrocities."

This means when the American military commission starts the trial of the Japanese general and accused war criminals on Oct. 29 in the high commissioner's former home here the American generals sitting in judgment over Yamashita will have their work cut out for them to keep from confusing his moral and legal guilt.

Public Information
Like the lurid details of a much publicized murder case, Yamashita's moral guilt is a matter of general information. After all, he was in command of Japanese forces in the Philippines from Oct. 9, 1944 until Sept. 9, 1945. Witnesses to crimes committed under his command walk on every Manila street, every road, pathway and trail in these islands.

There are thousands who cannot bear witness against him. Their bodies lie beside or beneath those roads and trails.

Massacre Story
The massacre of more than 1000 civilians in northern Cebu province last November is a story begging to be told.

The people of Puerto Princesa on Palawan island can describe in detail the bayonetting, burning alive and shooting of 141 captured American soldiers Dec. 14, 1944.

The list goes on endlessly. If you can shake off the sense-

dulling repetition of detail, and realize that each of these thousands was a separate, breathing, life-loving human being, it becomes horrible reading.

Other crimes:

The rape of nurses at Philippine general hospital Feb. 19, 1945; brutal murder of Judge Jose Carlos and his brother, Xavier, of De La Salle college, and the slaying of more than 50 others there on Feb. 7, 1945; the rape of more civilian women at the same place; the rape not only of women but small girls on the streets of Manila, not once but many times, throughout the hellish year; the maiming and murder of six Spanish Catholic priests and 20 other persons at San Marcelino church last February; the massacre of more than 50 people in the Philippine Red Cross building Feb. 10, 1945; and the burning of the building; the torture and subsequent mass murder of approximately 1000 unarmed civilians around St. Paul's college, Manila, Feb. 9, 1945.

Raping Told
The raping—often resulting in deaths—of hundreds of women and small girls in the vicinities of the Bayview hotel, Alhambra apartment hotel, Miramor apartment hotel and Manila hotel throughout February; the tortures and burning alive of civilians in Singalong; the maiming and massacring of approximately 1,000 in Cuenca village, Batangas province; another 500 in the town of San Jose; another 200 in Matasnakahay; another 1500 in the town of Santo Tomas.

The horrible mutilation and murder of more than 400 in Manila's Paco district that dread day of Feb. 10, 1945; the mistreatment, wounding and killing of more than 12,000 in the town of Lipa, Batangas province, last February and March; 4000 more at Fort Santiago maimed, burned and buried alive; 7000 massacred at Calamba in Laguna province; 8000 more in St. Augustine church, Manila.

On and on the list goes. Those are the bare "highlights" of atrocities for which Yamashita is morally guilty—because certainly as commanding general he could have prevented at least a little of what became a wholesale slaughter campaign.

But proving him legally responsible and guilty may be a different story.

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

In the Meantime

To the Editor:

What is a hungry soldier without a job going to do while the wise guys are settling their disputes and working out a program?

And in speaking of a hungry soldier we mean the soldier who fought on the assembly line as well as on the battle line—and all other unemployed who seek employment.

The problem of peace has always been the problem of the unprotected.

If our wise planners will provide in some practical and permanent way for transition from unemployment to interesting self-sufficiency they will find they may forget their worries about permanent jobs, high wages and standards of living.

It is high time we understand that a "job" is not the last word in the dictionary of peace.

A permanent department of service offering sustenance, education and assistance to independent self-sufficiency is the idea that screams from every situation involving employment of the unemployed.

Active, thinking, humanity seeks escape from sole identity as cogs in the machine of industrial autocracy. It wants and demands identity as co-operating units in advancing democracy with the vision of liberty rather than of the certain advance of the rule of the employer.

Instead of communism, socialism, or any other ism, and all of good or bad such terms imply to those who favor or oppose them, it is possible and necessary to extend to the unprotected the manifest advantages of progress.

This is the issue of peace and war, past, present and future. It is the universal issue upon which reasonable people agree regardless of their opinions of this ism or that.

The sharing of these advantages is prevented and the strong continue to rob the weak upon the sheer basis of custom, precedent, or other hocus pocus.

This nation has, in the one feature that most distinguishes it, namely, its great free school system, the nucleus of the most certain peace and greatness for the future.

Simply extend free education to the soil, the shop, the laboratory, and the factory to whatever extent is necessary to demonstrate self-sustenance under the improvements of progress. Then make this education, sustenance, service, and protection available to all whose cir-

cumstances suggest it and regulate the whole as necessary to make it most effective.

Thus would be provided an anchor of security against imposition... and effective agency for employment, education, and service to satisfy every desire and circumstance, always available for the realization of democracy.

R. A. Harris,
Salem, Oregon.

SHIP LINE TO RE-OPEN

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 12. (AP) Harold K. Cherry today was named assistant district manager in charge of traffic by Robert E. Piper, district manager for Luckenbach Steamship company. The appointment was one of several made preparatory to re-establishing service here.

Mask-making is one of the most ancient of arts.

STEVENS

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Open an Account

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