

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Ave"
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Who Won Pacific War?

There really is enough glory in the victories of the last war for all branches of the armed services to glow with pride. No one element—navy, army, marine corps, air corps—did the task single handed. In Europe the army and air force slugged it out, but they had to have the navy to carry men and supplies across. In the Pacific the navy was the more important factor, but the navy's ships stop at the beaches and the death rolls of Tarawa, New Guinea, Guadalcanal, and Leyte include names of thousands of soldiers and marines. So it is unfortunate that high-placed officers in the service should get into controversy over "who won the war." General Doolittle was right in saying the Pacific war was won by teamwork, but he erred in invoking the protests of the dead pilots of the B-29s against the boasts of the admirals.

In this connection an article in the last Saturday Evening Post on Japan's mistakes is quite informing in giving the view of a Japanese officer on the errors which contributed to Japan's defeat and by the same token to the American victory. It is written by Lt. (jg) S. P. Walker and is based on an interview with Capt. Yoshio Koboyashi. It is of particular interest as a sort of counterpart to the "post-mortem" of German officers included in General Marshall's report.

Lack of fuel and lack of trained pilots greatly hampered Japan in the latter period of the war. At that the Japs were conserving planes and men for an all-out assault on the expected invasion. Drop in gasoline quality to 85 octane also was a great handicap.

When asked what he considered the worst tactical or strategic blunders the Japanese made during the whole war Captain Koboyashi replied after a pause:

"Midway was our greatest defeat. But it was not necessarily a blunder. Simply we were defeated. I believe our greatest blunder was at Guadalcanal. If at Guadalcanal we had been one week earlier with many planes, fighters, bombers, we could probably have prevented your landing."

Koboyashi conceded also that the navy made a "stupid mistake" in the second battle of the Philippine sea when the central Japanese attacking force which had a group of our escort carriers almost at their mercy, turned in retreat. That second battle of the Philippine sea last October 24-25 convinced the Japanese commanders that the war was lost, the Jap officer said.

When asked which the Japs feared most, the battleships or the big Essex-class carriers, the immediate response was the carriers. Answering the question as to the greatest single cause for the Japanese defeat Koboyashi replied:

It was many things. But most important were your carriers. Without your carrier victories, we should still be fighting you in the jungles of the South Pacific. Your carriers isolated our best bases, and gave you bases from which you could strike our homeland. They reduced our own airforce. They sank our carriers.

That is the testimony of a Japanese naval air base commander as reported by an officer in our own naval reserve. It pretty well confirms our own judgment as to the record made in the Pacific. Midway was the decisive battle, because it set a limit to Japanese expansion and because it broke the back of the Japanese navy and carrier-plane strength. And without a doubt, the U. S. carriers provided the movable airbases which accelerated greatly the march to Tokyo. But again, it was teamwork that counted, for the submarines cut the Jap oil supply line, and the army took and held the ground and army bombers pulverized Japanese industries.

Let's Get the Premise Right

The National Association of Manufacturers may or may not be going too far in demanding the abolition of all war-time regulations, but its report at the congressional hearing on re-conversion rang the bell with a new wording of an old but oft-forgotten economic truth:

"The presence of profit for employers is the workers' only guarantee of employment and wages."

It further states: "There can be no prospect for productive employment unless there is prospect of wages for employers in supplying the tools of production and organizing manpower and machinery to produce what customers want at prices they are willing to pay."

These statements set forth two of the paramount necessities in arriving at a solution of labor-management problems—the necessity to keep business sufficiently profitable to warrant continuance, and the necessity to keep prices at a level attractive to consumers. Add one other necessity—a living, adequate buying-power wage for workers—and you have the three points to which everything else must be subservient in the problem at hand.

Full recognition of these basic facts would do much to eliminate the extraneous arguments and bitterness which seem to arise whenever one faction refuses to see any semblance of justice in any case other than its own.

Men are still quarrelling over "a girl named Pearl." Now the republicans are using a belying pin on the democrats for holding them off the secret files of the government. Pearl may get into the next campaign in a big way.

"Washington on its feet," says a Statesman headline on the capital's bus strike. If the national capital is really back on its feet that is a good sign. Maybe the rest of the country can get back on its feet, too.

Government A Partner

Secretary Wallace insists that his economists have figured things out correctly when they report that the automobile manufacturers can grant a wage increase of 15 per cent in 1943 and to 25 per cent in 1947 without increasing prices. Suppose this is conceded. Does it necessarily follow that wages should be increased in that amount? Might it not be better for the country as a whole to reduce prices of automobiles and so bring to more people the advantage of convenient and comfortable transportation?

This goes to the heart of the wage-price issue. Does not labor itself realize substantial benefits from lowering price levels? Through advanced technology and through managerial ability and skill of workmen, our industrial and agricultural plant in America has provided a truly amazing stock of goods for popular consumption. Thus we have been able to increase wages and for many items lower prices and improve quality. Labor should be quite as much concerned with prices as with wages. Right now its stake might even be greater in lower prices than in higher wages if the latter resulted in marked price inflation.

We have a suspicion that the government is more anxious to have a degree of inflation than one of deflation. It has a stake in the economy through its tax structure. It is to the interest of the government to have a continued high national income—or one even higher—so that its tax-take will be large both to finance current expenditures and meet its debt service. Lower prices mean smaller receipts on excise taxes, and might mean lower taxes through reduced profits. Thus the interest of the federal treasury, as well as the political inclination of the men in power, support the higher-wage policy which Secretary Wallace is endorsing. And since maintenance of the national credit is fundamental, private business itself cannot ignore the partnership of government in business. This helps to justify some wage increase which would help maintain purchasing power, but one not so great as to force general or sharp price increases.

The Fiat motor works in Italy is making 100 cars a day out of scrap materials salvaged from German and Italian military vehicles. Now that tin cans are no longer collected for salvage in this country the teen-age mechanics will resume manufacture of high school jalopies.

Interpreting The Day's News

By James D. White
Associated Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 12.—(AP)—From the spice isles of Indonesia to the shores of Tripoli, the vast colonial world of dark-skinned peoples is rumbling and in places erupting against the white man's rule.

Great Britain is the chief power affected. With a labor government at home, Britain retains a colonial policy based on the principle of gradual conversion of empire holdings to dominion status—but still within the empire. Britain stands to become a small power if this policy fails and her colonies desert her by violence or otherwise.

The discovery in Tokyo this week of a "discontent school" where Japanese had trained Asiatics to resist the return of Anglo-Saxon ideas and control bears out the earlier thesis of this column that Japan worked hard at this and got in some very effective licks. Both Italy and Germany had tried it earlier, particularly with the Moslems.

Revolutionists Use Religion

The religion of Islam is being used as an important rallying point for revolutionists. A league of Arab states was formed around the eastern Mediterranean some months ago, and Arab resistance against the possibility of turning Palestine into a national home for Europe's Jews has its logical sequence in last week's riots in Tripoli, Egypt and Palestine itself.

The Egyptian prime minister today demanded complete independence.

Move eastward to India, and you find the Mohammedan part of India actively supporting the Arab demand to keep Palestine non-Jewish.

The non-Moslem part of India applauds loudly, meanwhile, the demands of the predominantly Mohammedan nationalists of Indonesia for independence from the Dutch.

Last night Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the leader of the all-India congress party, said in a speech it was India's own duty to revolt and that if India wasn't ready to do it India was a dead nation.

The British have had to deal with riots in Bombay, and, further east, with strikes in Malaya.

British Play Policeman

Meanwhile, because France and Holland could not get their troops back to their priental empires soon enough, Britain stepped in to play the role of policeman. There was serious trouble in French Indochina, but the recent arrival of a sizable force of French troops following the British has resulted in a relatively quieter situation there now.

Indochina, by the way, has few if any Mohammedans.

But in Indonesia, where 90 per cent of the people are Moslem, the story is different. Dutch troops still haven't arrived in force, and continued nationalist agitation and violence has been met by a British ultimatum to surrender. When this was ignored, the British opened up with heavy equipment against a big nationalist center at Soerabaya, and the nationalists claim heavy casualties resulted.

Unquestionably prejudicing their cause, the Indonesians are said to have more than 80 Japanese planes at their disposal, and appear to be fighting with Japanese tanks and with a Japanese-inspired conviction—diligently cultivated by the Japanese before they surrendered—that the white man's days in the colonial world were numbered.



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Right Up Their Alley

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

DAYS AND NIGHTS, by Konstantin Simonov, translated from the Russian by Joseph Barnes (Simon & Schuster; \$2.75).

Capt. Saburov, commanding the second battalion of a regiment in the 683rd Rifle Division, a unit in the historic defense of Stalingrad, is the hero of this novel about the battle which has been called the turning point of World War II.

Though there's a heroine, too, Anya Klimentenko, a nurse, this is pretty much an affair of men without women. Saburov's division moves across the Volga into the focal city in September, 1942, and joins in the desperate struggle.

Since this pictures on page after page the actual fighting, the efforts of small units to defend a street, a block, a single building, it's a novel hard to keep interesting. But there is never a monotonous moment. The variety in the action is based, it must be supposed, on cuts in the real conflict.

The author cuts out of the great battle a small vertical segment for his material from the battalion up through headquarters; if this isn't the undying fiction which Tolstoy produced from the Sevastopol siege in an earlier war, it is still a memorable evocation of the incredible hardships, the frightful cost in blood and, as the end nears, the thrilling prospect of eventual victory justifying the sacrifices.

It is of course idealized, for Russian soldiers look as glamorous to Russian novelists as American soldiers to American novelists, and there is a grand love story. Simonov draws character clearly and you will long remember Saburov and Anya, Konyokov the brave clown, Petya the faithful orderly. When Red Army men grouse, they sound like Yanks; and they even criticize Russian domestic policy before the war, overall strategy and other aspects of Communist life. . . . Simonov maybe doesn't know that free speech doesn't exist in Russia.

The author is one of Russia's outstanding war correspondents, the publishers say, and his book has been popular in his native land.

It comes to us in a very smooth translation and merits the wide reading it will get, thanks to its selection by the Book of the Month Club for November.

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—(AP)—Nothing was published about unidentified attacks made since peace in China upon American forces there several weeks ago. I have private but direct information a United States navy repair ship was "shot up" floating down a river. I have also learned of numerous incidents where planes at American airfields have been shot at. Damage was done in most instances but there were no casualties.

Official authorities presumably kept these matters quiet for diplomatic purposes (Russia?). Instead, the daily news routes from China are being piled with rather injured assertions from the communist "New China Daily News" that the United States is now don't laugh, soldiers, after the war you have been through—"intervening in the domestic affairs of China." I suppose, next the commie press will be charging us with intervening in the affairs of Germany and Italy, where our troops also are.

Story Only Half Told

Anyhow, in this instance, the Chinese communists asserted whatever we did was dastardly of us, because Russian troops were politely withdrawing from Chinese territory, in accordance with their treaty promise. They neglected to mention the Russian communists had left them, the Chinese communists, to start a civil war against the established allied Chinese government.

All this means, of course, is that the communists are losing their civil war. The only interland. It comes to us in a very smooth translation and merits the wide reading it will get, thanks to its selection by the Book of the Month Club for November.

Two Political Regimes

The whole truth is there are but two political regimes in China, neither of them democratic. Chiang, in the true democratic spirit, has promised repeatedly—his entire Kuomintang movement has pledged—an election as soon as the communists lay down their arms or genuine collaboration by the communists justifies. He is an avowed disciple of Christian principles.

The communists, atheistic or agnostic disbelieving in Christian principles, only pretend to advocate democracy. They represent Stalin's bid to capture Asia—in absentia.

The only choice for us in Asia is between those two alternatives. All other argument is immaterial. I could report as bad things about the Kuomintang regime as the communists are reporting to us now. It is corrupt in many spots; in others it is not good government.

Inflation Problem

China is suffering inflation, which the Kuomintang has not combatted. It will have terrific struggle to survive not only the communist opposition, but itself. As I reported before, I have authoritative information 98 per cent of the struggling Chinese people are not much interested in either government.

The Kuomintang government, however, is our ally, was a participant with us in setting up the United Nations war and peace organization. It cooperates with us wholeheartedly. The communist government may or may not have a unique degree of independence from Moscow, but it would vote today with Russia against us on any matter of war or peace; in fact, is in armed rebellion against our ally.

Put this basic background thought to any China news dispatch you read from now on, whether it comes straight from the communists or circuitously through American or other spokesmen—and laugh at them.

MEMORIAL BUILDING

CENTRAL POINT, Nov. 12.—(AP)—Cornerstone of a new memorial building was laid today by the Myers-Holland post of the American legion.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

and prevents competitive development. The region suffers, too, from the basing-point system of price fixing which penalizes it through high freight rates.

Although Garnsey is professor in a state university he is bold enough to pull the whiskers of local leaders. He points his finger at the powerful, obstructive, local blocs: the silver bloc, the gold bloc, the beet sugar bloc, the cattle bloc; and notes how they dominate regional and influence national politics. He calls the local opposition to a Missouri Valley authority another example of "shortsightedness and economic naivete." To quote:

"Taking their cue from the power and irrigation lobbies, and hypnotized by their own oratory about 'state's rights,' the politicians in power in the mountain states are almost unanimously opposed to an MVA."

Indeed, opposition in the mountain states to the River Valley authority idea appears to be accompanied in about equal parts of ignorance, prejudice and dog-in-the-mangerism."

I have no doubt that Governor Vivian of Colorado and former Governor Ralph Carr have spat some fire over that accusation. Fighting MVA and other authority measures has been a real crusade with Carr.

The "leaders" of the mountain states may protest the Garnsey article both as to its basis in fact and its propriety in displaying their faults to the whole country. But there is virtue in holding up a mirror so that people may see themselves, not as they like to be photographed, but as an observant local critic sees them. The Pacific coast suffers less perhaps from absentee ownership, but it is true here as in the mountain states that some of the leadership is concerned more with protecting established interests than with encouraging our independent economic development.

Snag-Falling Burn Problem

If any plan designed for rehabilitation of the Tillamook burn is adopted, snag falling looms as one of the more serious problems, state forester Nels Rogers declared here Monday. He said the use of high explosives may be the answer and investigations are now under way along these lines.

Rogers pointed out that men who have been with the armed demolition squads and other branches of the armed forces may have had a lot of experience in handling explosives and probably could be employed in the snag falling operations.

General opinion is that a program of 100 per cent snag falling is inadvisable and that a desirable standard could be obtained through cutting of corridors. The proposed 100 per cent snag reduction could not be justified on the basis of costs, Rogers averred.

Past Commanders Of Legion Meet

Thirteen members of the Past Commanders club of the American Legion, Capital post No. 9, attended their club's annual breakfast Monday morning at 8 o'clock at the Lions Den. Irl McSherry, secretary, will serve as president, succeeding E. M. (Bing) Page, who is hospitalized.

Capt. Douglas McKay presided. Col. H. G. (Fod) Maison, recently returned from more than three years of south Pacific duty, spoke briefly.

Attending the meeting were Robin D. Day, 1919; O. E. (Mose) Palmateer, 1930; Claude McKenney, 1934; McSherry, 1932; John Olson, 1944; Art Johnson, 1940; Brazier C. Small, 1939; Ira Pilcher, 1943; George Avert, 1937, and Fred Gahlador, 1942.

B. E. (Kelly) Owen, most recent past commander, was persuaded by the rest of the members to be initiated and to act as the official host. As host, Owen had to furnish the refreshments.

1,500,000 Young Trees to Be Planted

Close to 1,500,000 seedlings, produced at the Oregon forest nursery, Corvallis, will be available for forest planting during the winter planting season, Nels Rogers, state forester, reported here Monday.

These seedlings are produced for the purpose of fulfilling a two-fold purpose—distribution to farmers who desire to establish woodlands, shelterbelts and windbreaks and to fill the state's needs for state forest planting.

Out of the total nursery output about half a million trees will be distributed to farmers, Rogers predicted. The remaining trees will be used in the reforestation program involving the Tillamook burn.

Anderson Asks More Income For Farmers

MEMPHIS, Nov. 12.—(AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson called upon farmers tonight to set a "parity income goal" based on "55 to 60 million people employed, with a national income of 150 billion dollars or more."

This goal, he declared in an address prepared for delivery before the National Association of Commissioners, secretaries and directors of agriculture, "should be agriculture's fair share of the national income under full employment, full-scale industrial activity."

Some think the easiest way of increasing the income of producers of a commodity is to raise the parity price, the secretary said.

"But that sort of action can bring only short-range benefits," if it results in a price that is out of line with reality. It can endanger the future of the commodity from a long-range standpoint with loss of markets at home and abroad, and by stimulating competition, inefficient production, loss of quality."

He gave cotton as an example but said: "I believe we can grow cotton profitably at costs favorable enough to permit this product to compete on its merits in free markets."

A program of assuring a steady demand for agricultural products, Anderson said, "could go a long way toward supporting farm prices by keeping people in the habit of eating good diets."

Canada Ford Strike Peace Offer Rejected

WINDSOR, Ont., Nov. 12.—(AP)—The United Auto Workers (CIO) announced tonight that the Ford Motor company, Ltd., of Canada, had rejected "a union offer to end the 62-day strike at the Ford plant."

Ford officials were reported in conference and were not available for comment on the union's statement, which was signed by George F. Addes, international secretary-treasurer of the UAW.

The strike involves 10,000 Ford production workers and an additional 6,500 Windsor area unionists who joined in sympathy walkouts.

A union official said the proposal included an agreement to open the power house provided the company would immediately enter into negotiations.

"We were hopeful that the opening of such negotiations would permit a speedy and just settlement and result in early resumption of full operations at the plant," the union statement read.

Public Records

MUNICIPAL COURT

Julius A. Barnes, route 5, Salem; driving under influence of intoxicating liquor; \$250 bail.
Westly M. Gillenwater, Lebanon; violation of basic rule; \$25 bail.
Eugene E. Smalley, \$50 bail.
George Winchester, 4211 SE Alder, Portland; violation of basic rule; \$10 bail.
R. W. Best, Monmouth; no operator's license; \$5 bail.
Nels Steudland, Anchorage, Alaska; violation of basic rule; \$10 bail.
Harold L. Lawwell, 257 Elm st., West Salem; violation of basic rule; \$7.50 bail.
Harry Coffman, Portland; violation of basic rule; \$7.50 bail.
Lowell C. King, Salem; driving while under influence of intoxicating liquor; held.
Lorah K. Griffin, 840 SW Main, Portland; violation of basic rule; \$10 bail.
Wayne E. Kimple, 444 Water st.; four in driver's seat; \$1.20 fine.
Paul Villwock, Dallas; violation of basic rule; \$7.50 bail.

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