

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Home Modernization Under FHA

A letter and news release from Folger Johnson, state director of the Federal Housing Administration, carries the information that the FHA assistance in the financing of repair, improvement and modernization of homes is again available. While this is more or less "academic" now owing to the lack of materials and of skilled labor, the fact is worth knowing for those contemplating improving their homes.

The FHA program proved very practical in the period before the war and undoubtedly contributed much toward improving the country's housing. More than \$2 billions in property improvement loans on more than five million jobs were made by private lenders with FHA insurance. The maximum for the individual loan is \$2500 and the term three years, on the monthly installment plan of payment.

This refers to modernization loans under Title I of the federal law. Under Title II the FHA also insures loans on new construction, but that end of their business is practically dormant now because construction costs and lot values have risen above levels on which FHA does business. Either costs will have to come down or FHA rules liberalized to get much action under Title II. However, there is so much pressure for housing and so much private money available that building will proceed without FHA insurance as fast as materials and labor become available.

Without doubt the most urgent national problem is that of housing. Returning service men anxious to establish or reestablish homes are desperate to obtain living space. They have earned a comfortable place of residence by dint of many months of living in barracks, tents, warships and foxholes. But there simply are not enough houses and apartments to go around. That is why the need is so pressing for an early settlement of labor disputes, particularly the lumber strike, so building may be launched on a wide scale. Meantime, modernization loans permit cutting up houses into apartments to provide more dwelling units, and by diligent search materials for such work may be found.

World Police

Poor old Britain still seems to be doing duty as world policeman, though the United States is attempting it in a small way in northern China. In Palestine and in Java, British troops are trying to maintain order, quell disturbances and maintain authority. Britain holds a league of nations mandate for the bossing of Palestine; and of course also stands guard over its life-line of empire which runs through the Suez canal. In Java they are helping to reestablish Dutch authority in the East Indies against a rebellion of independence-seeking Indonesians. The Dutch themselves apparently aren't equipped to do the job, so Britain is doing it for them. There are several reasons for this support. One is that Britain doesn't like to see independence movements succeed in the far east lest her own interests be jeopardized. Another is a desire to weld The Netherlands in Europe into full coordination with the British political and economic system. A third reason may be to get the Japs out of the Dutch East Indies.

Walking the world beat is a thankless task at best. We found that out in trying to "police" Central America. Yet some nation with power has to keep a semblance of order over the world and traditionally that has been Britain's job. In her self-interest? Yes, to a large degree; but without doubt such policing has helped preserve the peace of the world.

The independence movement in Java has much more force than might have been anticipated. It is by no means certain, however, that the people crowded on this small island are ready for self-government. The Dutch have admitted the natives to political office and have promised extension of their local rule, giving the Dutch East Indies a dominion status. Such a policy of gradual growth in self-government seems wiser than to turn Indonesia adrift now. Without doubt, however, the British will be happy when they can pull their police force off of Java and tend to their own affairs.

Sharing the Atom Bomb Secret

The statement issued by the heads of the governments of the United States, Great Britain and Canada relating to the atomic bomb points out what this newspaper has reiterated—that the prevention of war is the surest way to prevent destruction by atomic energy. The solution of the immediate problem arising from the practical use of that energy in the bomb seems straightforward and practical. The three heads of governments agree that there should be free interchange among the nations of scientific knowledge. As to the technical process developed for producing the atomic bomb they state that it should not be divulged immediately, but recommend that the United Nations organization set up a commission to study how the use of atomic energy for destructive purposes may be prevented. Presumably if the United Nations can establish effective controls against aggressive use of the atomic bomb, secrets as to its manufacture could be given to that organization for custody.

The Russophiles may protest and say that we should immediately hand over all our technical knowledge; but The Statesman believes that the present declaration of policy goes as far as it should toward internationalizing this knowledge. We aren't passing out the techniques on all our other weapons. When the United Nations gets well established and commands support and respect of the nations then we can share our military secrets.

"Disintegration" of Army and Navy

The scramble to get out of the military services has resulted in a virtual disintegration of our armed forces. General Marshall has complained of this with respect to the army and Friday Admiral King intimated that the navy was hardly in position because of loss of manpower to fight a major battle. Fortunately none is looming, but it does seem as though discharges from the services should not be at such speed as to leave army and navy merely an uncoordinated mass.

But this is typical of Americans. They rush in on threat of trouble; but once the show seems to be over they rush out, eager to get home and into civilian life. In this case the rush for the exits is helped along by the pressures of relatives and congressmen for release of service men and women. Some try as hard now to get out of the service as once they tried to get commissions in the service.

With the earth still full of trouble and with seeds of more trouble ready to sprout in many fertile soils we should maintain a competent army and naval force. There are plenty of men with short periods of service and no combat record who can take the places of those who through length of service, risk in battle, or responsibility to dependents have won release. For this disintegration the responsibility does not rest with the high command primarily, but with the people and with those in political office and with newspapers and radio reporters who have abused the war and navy departments unmercifully for the slowness of discharges. It is understandable that men almost perish from boredom in an army or navy outpost with nothing to do. But we can ill afford to let our military might wither thus suddenly.

The war being over, rockets will start where rockets left off.

Interpreting The Day's News

By James D. White
Associated Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 16 (AP)—Up until Wednesday the United States government had not discussed with Russia the civil strife in China.

Secretary Byrnes told newsmen this two days ago, and this fact stands out as events move toward an apparent climax in northern China, where Russia and America are the two non-Chinese powers who could become involved in the civil strife between Chinese communists and the Chinese central government.

For Americans, this situation will be pointed up by the fact that Marine Maj.-Gen. DeWitt Peck happened to be on a train which was fired upon by someone—possibly a Chinese communist—near the north China town of Lwanhsien. Peck is not the first marine who has ever been fired upon. The Chinese communists accuse us of meddling in China's internal affairs as we provide men and material to the central government to aid it in disarming Japanese forces and in reasserting its authority over these areas.

Reds Challenge Advance
The communists actively challenge this reassertion of authority by blocking the overland delegates of central government troops.

One thing emerges as certain from this confusing situation. American aid, whether of a meddlesome nature or not, has not been decisive, as yet, in effecting the return of central troops and in disarming the Japanese. The reds still block central troops, and General Wedemeyer says a third of the Japanese still are not disarmed.

In the meantime things are happening. The Russians, occupying Manchuria, are withdrawing, and in two cases are said to have withdrawn in such a way that Chinese communist forces have beaten central government troops to the occupational punch.

The communists now are alleged in Chungking to have gained almost complete control over three provinces—Suiyuan, Chahar and Jehol—which are contiguous either with outer Mongolia or Manchuria. Their aim seems to be two-fold: to establish a base adjacent to soviet-controlled territory, and, if unable now to gain Manchuria itself by beating Chungking to it, then to gain parts of it now as the Russians withdraw and then get the rest of it later.

The Russians have agreed, Chungking says, to turn over postal and communications facilities to Chungking officials who have been flown into Manchuria, but Chungking troops apparently face the prospect of having to fight their way in through Chinese communist barriers set up near the Great Wall.

Communists Hit at Hurley
The U. S. ambassador to China, General Hurley, who played a prominent role in negotiations which got Chungking and communist leaders together to talk over a peaceful settlement, now has accused the communists of seeking "to set up a separate government in China or destroy the government of the Chinese Republic." The reds retort that his interpretation serves "no other purpose than to spread and prolong civil war in China." In the light of that reaction, it seems unlikely that they would welcome further assistance from him as a mediator.

Chungking is reported to be sending a central army into the far western province of Sinkiang, another area contiguous to Soviet Russia, after a government mission failed to satisfy reported demands by minority elements for "autonomous regions."

And a Chungking general in north China appears determined to fly his troops into Changchun, the Manchurian capital, in transport planes.

Yesterday the United States, with Britain, offered all the United Nations, including Russia, a share in atomic bomb secrets in return for a freer flow of information.

But until the day before, this government had not discussed with Russia the civil strife in China, where atomic and other bombs eventually could go off.



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Keeping Their Secrets

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

WARTIME MISSION IN SPAIN 1942-1943, by Charleston J. H. Hayes (Macmillan, \$3).

Hayes, history professor at Columbia, served as ambassador to Spain during crucial years. He gives his account of his experiences in carrying out one of the most disputed of all recent policies of the State Department.

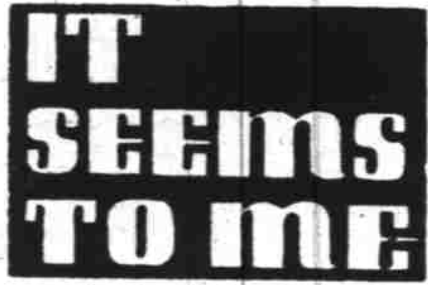
Hayes' book records a resounding success which, if not due to Allied arms, must be due to diplomacy. His job was to keep Spain out of war on the Axis side, at the start, and eventually swing her as far as possible toward a benevolent neutrality to the Allies. Spain toed the mark.

Actual achievements which Hayes claims for our policy include the facts that Spain did not hinder Allied landings in Africa, did recognize informally the Algerians, allowed volunteers to cross Spain and join the Free French, evacuated force-landed airmen, cut down on wolfarm exports to Germany, and so on. He also counts as a success the permission to show the film, "Gone With the Wind."

But the ambassador and State Department, we are reminded, were criticized for their methods by groups and individuals whom Hayes characterizes as "new and untrained" OWI and OSS employees with a "missionary zeal," "certain journalists and radio commentators, particularly those who had long been more concerned with waging civil war in Spain (from a safe distance) than with fighting Germany," and "certain readily eruptive journalists."

Hayes, a Catholic, began his mission in the opinion that there were two sides to the civil war. With the exception of Falangist Serrano Suner, the leaders hate Communism, fear German overlordship, really favor the Allies, he says. He believes the people would be content to let Franco keep office. While he does not endorse Churchill's praise of the Generalissimo, he does not indicate disagreement.

Hayes tried to balk a stiffening attitude toward Madrid by the State Department. He felt on a couple of occasions that Washington inadvisedly let Britain



(Continued from page 1)

executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancy.

The Oregon law carries out this mandate by directing the governor to call for a special election in the case of a vacancy in the office of representative in congress.

Since there is no provision for party nominations in the case of a special election in a congressional district, resort must be had to the general law which permits nominations by assembly or by petition. The assembly must consist of 250 electors and the petition requires the signatures of three per cent of the electors of the district. The candidates run as individuals, and not with a party designation, according to the interpretation of the law by state officials.

It does seem as though the gap in the law should be filled by providing machinery for party nominations. If our political party system means anything, it surely should be employed in election of representatives in congress.

Even though the present law does not authorize a party nomination it would be quite in order in the present situation confronting the first district, to hold a party assembly, under party auspices, in case the governor issues a writ of election. The state chairman could make such a call, apportioning delegates among the counties in the district so that the assembly would number at least 250 persons, the delegates to be appointed by the county committees or their executive committee. This would be representative, and in a district as diversified as the first district such a gathering could not

and Sir Samuel Hoare take credit for accomplishments really carried through by the U.S. and Carleton Hayes.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"I'm sure Junior's commander didn't fret half as much when he was out nights with a tank!"

Mary Keitle Dies At Woodburn

WOODBURN—Mrs. Mary Keitle, 75, died today at a local rest home. She was a resident of route 1, Hubbard, near Broad-acre, and had come to Oregon 22 years ago from Montana.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday from the Ringo mortuary, with interment at Belle Passi cemetery.

Survivors are the husband, William Keitle, route 1, Hubbard; one daughter, Louella Leisy, a stepson, Harold W. Keitle, and a stepdaughter, Mrs. Mildred Holcomb, all of Portland, and three grandchildren.

Open Meeting To Hear Health Center Plans

Establishment of a community health center in Salem, where medical service will be available on a pre-paid basis to all residents of the Willamette Valley, will be discussed by Dr. Michael Shadid, at an open meeting Tuesday, 8 p.m. November 21 at the Salem Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Shadid, famed founder of the nation's first successful cooperative hospital at Elk City, Okla., is in the northwest under the sponsorship of the Pacific Supply cooperative, and he will appear in Salem under the auspices of the Marion county Farmers Union.

Under the tentative plan now being considered, it is proposed to build a \$50,000 clinic building on a site already owned by the Farmers Union hospital association. This clinic building will be completely equipped with a modern medical center with the latest diagnostic and therapeutic equipment. It will be constructed in such a way that additional stories and wings can be added later to include a complete hospital if such a development were found warranted.

Membership in the association would be open to all residents of the Willamette valley. A life membership will be available to family units.

Service to members of the Health Association would be based on a pre-payment plan. Schedule of payments would run from \$18 a year for one person to \$36 a year for a family of four persons. These annual payments would cover medical services including surgery for all members of the family.

Shadid will address 15 meetings during his three weeks' stay in the Willamette valley. The schedule for his next meetings are as follows:

Wednesday, November 21, Corvallis USO hall; Friday, November 23, Ballston Odd Fellows hall; Saturday, November 24, Stayton Forestry hall. All of these meetings will be open to the public and there will be no admission charge. Dr. Shadid will speak over KOAC Wednesday, November 21 at 6:30 p.m.

Salem Future Farmers Hold Annual Dinner

The Salem chapter of Future Farmers of America held its 12th annual parent and son banquet November 15 from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Orville Ohling, speaker of the evening and FFA state reporter, spoke on the benefits of Future Farmers of America contests. After commenting on the outstanding work of the Salem chapter he described each of the contests, pointing out that there was nothing to lose and everything to gain by participation. In listing the contests now open to all Future Farmers, Ohling included the public speaking contest, parliamentary procedure contest, farm mechanics contest, pig litter contest, and the Oregon star farmer contest which encourages Future Farmers to work for the highest state honor a Future Farmer can attain. Cash prizes are given to each winner.

Other parts of the program included a piano duet by Bob and Charles Saucy, a humorous reading by Lois Wacken, the recitation of a poem by Helen Shelton, an accordion solo by Donna Wiederkehr and a speech by Wayne Houser who explained the chapter program of work for 1945-46.

The honorary degree of FFA was presented to Roy Barker, Forest Smith and William McKinney in appreciation of their work for the chapter.

Oral Fitts acted as presiding officer and Jim Carter acted as toastmaster.

Jantzen Mills to Ask For Increase in Stock

PORTLAND, Nov. 16 (AP)—A proposal to increase cumulative preferred stock shares from 7,500 to 15,000 will be considered at a Jantzen Knitting Mills stockholders' meeting November 28, general manager Paul DeKonig said today.

The boost would finance the firm's \$1,000,000 expansion plan. The \$100 par value stock pays 5 per cent.

New Phones To Fill Demand By Next June

The 1600 persons in Salem who have their applications in for new telephones should be made happy by next June, Lloyd Henry, Salem manager of Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company told the Salem Board of Realtors Friday noon.

Speaking at the board's business luncheon at the Marion hotel Henry said that by the first of January, 1946, the telephone company expected to receive 40,000 new telephone instruments and by the end of the following three months 40,000 more. Enough instruments he said to take care of the present backlog of applications.

"Switching the manufacture of telephone instruments from civilian to military uses in 1942, the lack of new cables and wires and the wearing down of office equipment are the three main reasons for the shortage of telephones in Salem houses," Henry stated.

In answer to a question Henry voiced doubt that prefixes would be added to city telephone numbers for several years to come.

Wesley Stewart, board-member, introduced to the meeting Miss Faye Larkins, Salem Lion's club candidate for queen of the victory loan drive.

Speaker Henry was introduced by Bill Goodwin, chairman of the board's program committee. President R. A. Forkner presided at the meeting.

Philippine USO Clubs Profit by Chest Funds

The vast numbers of military personnel moving in and out of the Philippines or stationed there are now being served by seven USO clubs, says a report today to Charles A. Sprague, president of the Oregon War Chest, from the National War Fund.

Six of the clubs are located on Luzon, the principal island of the archipelago, while the seventh is in Tacloban, capital of Leyte. In addition to the clubs already in operation, several others are being prepared for early opening, said the report.

The USO club in Manila is serving between 14,000 and 20,000 service men and women a day, and is operating on practically round-the-clock basis, due primarily to inability to close it inasmuch as all windows and doors were blown out during the siege of the capital, and there are no materials available for repairs.

Preparations are under way for providing elaborate Christmas celebrations at all of the USO clubs in the Philippines, said the report, adding that along with the tons of essential furnishings being shipped to the islands, large and small Christmas trees, together with ornaments and dozens of strings of lights, are going forward to help make the occasion festive and bright.

The continuing services provided by USO for service men and women both in this country and overseas are supported by the National War Fund through contributions to the Marion County War Chest.

HIGHER RATES OKED

ASTORIA, Nov. 16 (AP)—The Astoria port commission has approved higher cargo and wheat handling rates, it was announced today. H. R. Bartlett, port manager, said low rates have cost the port several thousand dollars annually the last few years.

Stevens
Distinctive Styling

Not just another ring—but an entirely new design, skillfully fashioned in 14kt. gold. A worthy setting for a Stevens flawless diamond.

Extended Payments

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