

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Conviction of Belsen Sadists

Thirty of the 44 defendants charged with cruelty in managing the concentration camp at Belsen have been convicted. Eleven of the 30 were sentenced to death, including Joseph Kramer, the "beast of Belsen," and Irma Grese. One man was sentenced to life imprisonment and 18 were given prison terms of varying length, from one to 15 years.

The evidence introduced was so overwhelming as to the extent and nature of the atrocities at Belsen that the sentences seem entirely in order. Here the Nazi philosophy of the master race was put into practical application, in manner so revolting as to be utterly inhuman. Capital punishment surely is justified in treatment of the responsible heads of this charnel house.

There can be no compunction either as to law or procedure in this trial. The defendants were represented by counsel and were permitted to hear evidence against them and to introduce evidence in their behalf. The accusation was not the general one of conspiracy but of actual, personal guilt in the crimes of Belsen. The fact that 14 defendants were acquitted by the British military court shows regard for Anglo-Saxon standards of justice.

In the Nuremberg trials scheduled to start this week, the charges are general: conspiracy to start aggressive war. While the offense against humanity is greater even than the crimes at Belsen, still whatever punishment is applied is done on an ex post facto basis. There may be justification because of the enormity of the offense; but there is danger lest the punishment be regarded as vengeance or as a penalty for military defeat. This indeed would make the vocation of statesmen and generals a truly hazardous profession. If new law can be improvised on this occasion it may also be improvised on some other occasion. The court at Nuremberg will need to weigh its procedure carefully lest it set a dangerous precedent in jurisprudence for the future.

## Government Hoarding

In anticipation of need of huge bases both in Japan and on island approaches to Japan the army and navy accumulated huge stores of building materials: lumber, plumbing supplies, pipe, copper wire, etc. Some of it was moved out to advance supply depots like Guam. Great stocks still remain on this coast, principally in California.

These materials no longer will be needed for the purpose for which they were bought, nor in such quantities for any military purpose. But they are needed, desperately needed, for construction of houses. Something ought to be done to expediate the sale of these surplus stocks of lumber and other items needed for building.

According to the San Francisco Chronicle, millions of feet of lumber are stored in army and navy depots in the bay region. At the Lathrop engineers' depot at Stockton, 6000 water closets were found and 20,000,000 worth of tractors, all still in shipping crates.

In Oregon, there is not this abundance of new building materials. But if vacated military facilities were promptly put up for sale there would be a great deal salvaged in the way of lumber, plumbing and electrical supplies.

The government could help greatly in the provision of housing for veterans if it would release quantities of materials from its huge stores and expedite the sale of buildings at installations now listed as surplus.

## Sauce for the Gander

When Ford Motor company rejected the demand for the UAW for a 30 per cent wage increase it also made a demand for "company security." It previously had conceded "union security," which is another term for a closed shop, to the union. But it stated that there had been 771 work stoppages during the term of its union contract; and it wanted some assurance that it would be protected against quickie strikes and shutdowns of production lines on slight excuse. It will be interesting to see how the UAW replies to this demand.

This representation of the Ford company

## Editorial Comment

### OLD SILVERTIP

The Great Bear swings low on the northern horizon, these November evenings sharpening his claws on the mountaintops that he may feed well in the months ahead. Or perhaps only marking those mountains as his own, bear-wise. Ask the Indians. They can tell you; or once they could.

The Indians knew the Great Bear intimately, and to the tribes of the West he must have been a grizzly. Certainly he was, and still is, a Silvertip, as anyone who can see the stars must know. A gigantic Silvertip making the nightly rounds of his domain, circling the Pole Star.

But he was no random prowler, nor was he unattended. Three hunters followed him wherever he went. Those who know the constellation as the Big Dipper think of the Bear as the Dipper's bowl and the three hunters as the Dipper's handle. Why three? Well, it takes three to do justice to a Silvertip.

The first hunter, the one nearest the Bear, is obviously the oldest and most skillful; he carries the bow and the arrows. The second, at the crook of the Dipper's handle, is the hungry one. He carries a cooking pot, indicated by Alcor, the small star on his shoulder. And the third hunter is the novice. He carries spare bow strings and dry wood to start the cooking fire.

It has been a long hunt, to be sure; but the hunters have never given up, nor have they lost the trail. There they are today, tracking Old Silvertip as they have done for ages. And Old Silvertip himself has never lost the way. But these November evenings he always comes down close to the mountains. Some say in the deeper canyons there are scratches he made long ago.—New York Times.

ties in with one of the matters on the agenda of the labor-management conference: management's right to manage. This is one of the most annoying things in labor relations today. Management complains that it is constantly being interfered with on trivial grounds in the operation of its business. Grievance committees are bogged down with minor complaints or unjustified claims. As a result production is retarded, and production is the source of income both for labor and management.

Part of the trouble is due to the atmosphere of unfriendliness in which many plants operate. Tensions have grown so great and suspicions are so easily fanned into flame that minor matters are magnified into mountains. Fault there is on both sides. But if labor wants protection in its right from its employer, the latter must be given some assurance of protection in his operation.

## "Roosevelt College"

A group is promoting the establishment of a Franklin Roosevelt college in human relations at Washington, D.C. The announced purpose is to carry instruction in the humanitarian principles of the late president. Some "liberal" financiers are expected to aid in its finance.

It is natural for any group to seek to perpetuate its ideas, and what better way than by setting up a school? But education is much broader than any single packet of ideas. What Franklin Roosevelt might have thought in 1934 or 1944 on specific questions is too narrow a base for education a half-century hence. Roosevelt himself changed his mind or engaged in double talk.

The truly liberal institution of learning is one which is not tied down to a ready-made set of principles written out by one individual, but driven by a consuming desire for truth. The great universities are in this category now.

It is all right for admirers to name a college after FDR, but if it becomes just a forum for his "principles," it may quickly become just an alley for crackpots to roam in.

Emperor Hirohito has formally reported to his ancestors that Japan took an awful beating in the war it precipitated. So far he has made no gesture to join his ancestors, however.

## Interpreting The Day's News

By James D. White  
Associated Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 19.—(AP)—An American correspondent in Chungking has cabled back the dread with which jeep-jittery westerners await the dawn of Jan. 1, 1946, in China's capital. On that day Chinese traffic is scheduled to switch from the left side of the road, where it theoretically has been flowing, to the right side.

If you reversed the direction of American traffic, it would be bad, but the change-over may not be so drastic to many Chinese who may have entertained some doubt—as if they ever thought about it—as to just which side of the road they were supposed to walk, ride or drive on.

The Chinese have their rules of the road, but they have also a proverb which says that a road is good for ten years and bad for ten thousand.

There Are Rules, But . . . A road in China, often in bad repair, is like life itself—something to be traveled as best one can. Observing rules is all very well, but one has to get there.

China hasn't been able to afford many good roads, so that driving becomes a matter of avoiding murderous chuckholes, puddles and ruts, rather than staying on your side. So much so that some Chinese chauffeurs, who are prone to succumb to accelerator-ankle and the intoxication which comes with herding a hurtling ton of metal down the fairway, often forget which side they are supposed to be on. The ideal, of course, is to drive in the middle. I have seen head-on collisions in the middle of a wide street, where both drivers waited too long to turn aside.

Traffic is a seething mass in which the automobile is but a minor part. The giddy ricksha puller darts from side to side looking for passengers. He is by profession a free-thinker, and in big cities (where the rules are enforced to make him stay on one side) he wears a depressed, regimented look.

Bicycle Sinister Thing The bicycle becomes a sinister thing when ridden by the young apprentice, who pedals with his heels, rides swiftly in a weaving motion, and loses himself in snatches of opera where the proper falsetto tone is achieved only by closing the eyes.

To this scene now add the slow-moving ox or pony cart, the wheelbarrow laden with an unspeakable cargo of night-soil, the scampering child, the old lady with bound feet staggering across the street with her eyes glued to a bowl of hot noodles.

In north China long camel-caravans stalk their haughty way through all this with an enviable immunity, because camel-drivers have attained a skill in profanity which no ordinary mortal can hope to outclass in an argument.

Forget About Brakes The Chinese chauffeur, bent on inching his car or bus through such an indifferent world, is inclined to forget he has brakes (which never work too well anyway) and rely increasingly on his horn. On one 8-mile bus-ride I once counted more than 400 horn-tootings, each made up of one or more blasts.

Pedestrians usually ignore this completely, and there are many near accidents. After grazing a potential damage suit, the chauffeur sometimes sticks his head out the window and inquires insultingly: "Do you want to die?"

The pedestrian has a standard answer: "If I die," he glares back, "who will keep your mother?" Such banter livens up a dull day, and after January 1 will take place on the right side of the street instead of the left.



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## The Literary News Behind the News

By W. G. Rogers  
By PAUL MALLON  
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MY TWENTY-FIVE YEARS IN CHINA, by John E. Powell (Washington: D. C., 1945). Editor and Publisher of China Weekly Review, managing director of China Press and correspondent for many western newspapers, Powell went to Shanghai in 1917 and for a quarter century has been an astute observer, favored with unusual opportunities.

His book is his own story, plus enough background to unify it. It's our story, too, for it's the dramatic preface to Pearl Harbor. No matter how many books you've read in this field, which has been plowed back and forth many times, Powell has fresh, startling and dependable information. Babo, Lehrbas, Hill, Morin and other AP names occur.

The book was written in hospital beds where, since repatriation three years ago, Powell has been undergoing treatment following the loss of his gangrenous feet infected in Japanese prisons.

46 MILLION TONS TO EISENHOWER, by Lt. Col. Randolph Leitch (Danbury: Journal, \$2.50). Illustrated with charts and photos, this book turns logistics into drama and shows how the supply job that couldn't be done was done.

Some of the figures are staggering: The millions that give the book its title were for one year; Signal Corps men strung 250,000 wire miles in six months; there were 60 different types of Engineer units; 350,000 different items of supply were handled; 1000 pints of blood were flown daily from America to France; by D Day the 8th and 9th Air Forces had 129 fields.

HUNTING AND FISHING, prints by Honors Daumier (Parisian, \$3.50). For sportsman as well as art lover, these 24 reproductions by photogravure, on loose sheets within boards, form a worthwhile collection. Taken mostly from the magazines Caricature and Charivari, the lithographs are dated in the late 1830's, 1840's and 1850's.

Daumier, city bred and a city resident for all but the last few years of his life, looks at hunter and fisherman, out in the cold and rain, with the sardonic eye of the man sunk in a comfortable armchair.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



The public should appreciate us congressmen more—after all, we really make mistakes only for future generations to profit by!

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—(AP)—Mr. Attlee did not get his way about giving the atom bomb to Russia or to a United Nations commission.

Twenty-four hours before the decision was announced, however, some of the best informed correspondents were writing that the commission solution had been agreed. There were, at that time, some grounds for belief that the British had induced President Truman to change his mind. The mere publication of such a suggestion brought his best advisers into action, and he stood his ground firmly.

The British prime minister, who apparently had a major hand in writing the announcement, succeeded nevertheless in composing an exceptionally interesting, if elusive text. This document which stands in the nature of a momentous world proclamation on the most important subject confronting mankind requires analytical understanding.

Policy Threatened Indeed it may lead to breaking up the Truman policy in months or years to come unless the president remains insistent and alert.

The first point, the premise, asserts "there can be no adequate military defense" against the bomb and therefore no nation should monopolize it.

This assertion not only contradicts much scientific evidence, and the entire history of science which has always to date found defenses adequate for its invention of the man sunk in a comfortable armchair.

Unless you have trial proofs themselves, these are the most adequate samples of Daumier's genius in subjects of this kind; original pages from the magazines, not so carefully printed as in the early 1830's, do him less than justice.

Could Be Suicidal To put it another way on the same thumbnail, our official and public insistence must be maintained for inspection, or the giving away of the fruits of our scientific developments will become dangerous, foolish, even suicidal.

Consider Russia in this respect. She has isolated herself. If we give her all our scientific fruits and she maintains her isolation against inspection by us and an international body, the very fact that she does such a thing casts a reasonable suspicion upon free fruit-giving as to make it worthless as a world peace move.

Now do not conclude hastily that Mr. Truman and our government know all about these things and will take care of it, or that the possibilities opened in this momentous text represents my imagination of a remote possibility. The wrong philosophy is already in the text, balanced by the right philosophy.

Thus the text has left us with an obligation to maintain the right part of it against misinterpretation.

## Governor Delayed By Winty Roads

Because of snow and icy condition of the highways, Gov. Earl Snell, scheduled to reach Salem from Cheyenne, Wyo., Thursday, probably will not arrive here until Friday night, he advised the executive department Monday. Snell went to Wyoming to attend the annual conference of western governors.

## Public Records

CIRCUIT COURT  
Phyllis Maxine Slusher vs George O. Slusher: Divorce decree awarded to plaintiff.  
Charles M. Kinney vs Precious A. Kinney: Divorce decree awards custody of one minor child to plaintiff.  
Crystal E. Woodruff vs Glenn Woodruff: Divorce decree restores maiden name of Crystal E. Standly to plaintiff.  
George Waterman vs Rolland Rasmussen, Ed Randle, doing business as Randle Distributing Co.: Defendant files answer admitting and denying.  
Lawrence H. Brown vs Mayro M. Kinney, Ladd and Bush branch, The United States National Bank of Portland, and Flavius Meyer: Suit dismissed with prejudice to both parties without costs to either party.  
The State of Oregon, ex rel.

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

Atlantic and of the house naval affairs committee whose list for the Pacific is even longer. Colonel Remington, long retired from the army, has recently returned from a tour of the Pacific. He says: "It is important that the American people should think twice in this matter, and more specifically that the president and congress should take no action looking to the retention and development of any Pacific bases beyond the Marshall and Caroline islands and Guam" without considering carefully such matters as the defense of such bases against atomic attacks; the relation of such commitments to the whole problem of our military security; the relation to our foreign policy, particularly with respect to Russia and China; and our responsibilities under the United Nations organization.

Colonel Remington is of the opinion that the great distance of these bases and their dependence on ocean transportation for supplies make it necessary to concentrate on fewer bases. Retention of Okinawa in particular he feels would be interpreted as a base not of defense against Japan but of possible aggression against China or Soviet Asia. He would maintain our great base at Pearl Harbor, and guard our northern flank with bases in the Aleutians and make Guam our advance base in the central Pacific, with secondary bases of anchorages and airfields. He adds: "Truk, which is not on the navy list and which Great Britain is said to want, might well be internationalized."

It is easy to grow eloquent over insistence on retention of Okinawa and Iwo Jima because of the heavy price in American life paid for these bits of territory. But they are both too much exposed to be developed as major bases. As Colonel Remington says, it would take only two atom bombs to destroy most everything on Iwo Jima; and not many more for Okinawa.

Another danger in the navy plan is that the wide dispersal of strength over many bases will constitute weakness in defense. That was our trouble at Wake. It is easy to foresee in some period of stringency in peace times, a reduction of appropriations which would leave these isolated outposts with only skeleton defenses. Then if an enemy cuts across our line of communications the outlying bases are left helpless as were Truk and Rabaul for the Japs after our capture of Guam and of Leyte.

The whole subject is one for comprehensive study by a combined committee which should include civilian as well as professional military men. Military policy should be closely geared with our foreign policy; and in the present instance should be designed to provide ample domestic defense plus proper support for the United Nations, but with no cloak for aggressive war.

It would be foolish to abandon old methods and old weapons. At the same time, attention should be given to the impact of the new weapons on planning for a next war in terms of the last. And we ought to give serious effort to planning to avert wars in the future.

PROBATE COURT  
Genevieve H. Nelson, estate: Order authorizing Carl E. Nelson, administrator, to make redemption on certain bonds and to sell certain stocks. Final account approved.  
Elizabeth Allen Chapman, estate: Ruth Parker Chapman appointed as administratrix and Ralph H. Campbell, Paul F. Burris and Edith Shaffer appointed as appraisers.  
Walter and Walter Jensen and Carol Gail Jensen, guardianship estate: Report of guardian Judith Cox approved.  
Ronald James Morris, estate: Order authorizing Joseph C. Morris, administrator, to pay sum of \$2085.15 to heirs in equal shares from claim of estate on account of alleged wrongful death of Ronald James Morris.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS  
Allan W. Mitchell, 23, textile manufacturer, Newton Highlands, Mass., and Constance L. Luehrs, 30, professional Red Cross worker, Portland.  
Joseph E. La Rochelle, 23, U.S. navy, 925 N. 18th st., Salem and Evangeline L. Millard, 26, stenographer, 730 N. Liberty st., Salem.  
Hubert H. Gattis, 54, mechanic, Salem and Mildred L. Fetsch, 34, laundry worker, Salem.  
Albert M. Rowe, 39, farmer, route 2, Roseburg, and Blanche M. Boyer, 46, maid, Roseburg.  
Lester M. Purell, 19, U.S. army, route 6, Salem, and Mandaline Engle, 17, key punch operator, route 2, Salem.

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