

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Call for Nominating Assembly

There is growing demand over the first district for a party assembly at which nominations may be made for the congressional vacancy. The Oregonian and the Oregon Voter, both published in Portland but with statewide circulation, call for party nominations. The Astorian-Budget recommends a plan similar to that proposed in The Statesman last Saturday:

Under the circumstances it would seem to us that the obvious thing to do would be for each of the two major parties to call an assembly with proportional representation from each of ten counties involved and to ballot on the various candidates. True, the winner would still have to run as an independent but there would be nothing to prevent the two parties subsequently endorsing the candidate selected at the assembly.

We are not too certain that the candidate of such an assembly could not run with his party designation. The law does not appear to forbid it. In any event the publicity attendant on such a representative assembly and the probability that the nominee would be one whose party affiliation is well known would insure the very general support of his own party.

Such an assembly would discourage self-starters. Knowing the weight of the party would be behind the one named at such a representative assembly the prospective candidate would hesitate to step out as a candidate. And it wouldn't be so easy then to get 250 persons to gather in an assembly.

The party heads in the state should take the lead in directing party practice pattern in selection of a candidate.

Degree for Truman

Baptists down in Texas are bothered about the indulgence of their most prominent fellow-Baptist, President Truman who confesses to liking poker and bourbon whiskey. The Texas Baptist convention passed a resolution advising Baptist colleges not to grant Truman an honorary degree until he reformed. Baylor university, a Baptist-supported institution, went ahead and did so, its president ignoring the convention's action. Baylor previously had granted a degree to a Texan even more famous than Truman for his poker and whiskey-drinking, Jack Garner. It was Baylor however that turned down a \$25,000 gift from a St. Louis brewery concern.

Fame, as is well known, is not limited to the total abstainers; and if colleges are going to recognize men on the basis of their achievements they can't very well use the alcohol tests or they will leave out many who merit kudos. And besides the "children of evil" are often smarter making money than the "children of light."

A Mockery of Humanity

The revealing diary of Julius Streicher, besides concerning the man himself as an unprincipled opportunist to whom murder and immorality meant nothing, provides graphic proof of the rotten core of nazism. It portrays Hitler as a man afraid either to condemn or condone the infidelity of his henchmen and their wives; Goering as the kind of a military leader who blackballed the promotion of pilots because he was at odds with their families; other wouldbe Fuehrers as sly, conniving, bestial, brutal, godless.

The diary is no prosecutor's compilation of guess-work data. It is a self-portrayal, and therefore self-condemnatory, of a man who but for a trick of fate 23 years ago might well have been in the German seat of power. The account should figure heavily in the war-chimical trials, not as specific evidence but as the pattern of thought surrounding the men whose lives will be at stake. It is a mockery of humanity.

A flank attack on Pacific Power & Light is indicated through the formation of a power "cooperative." Interstate Electric—with offices at Pasco. Heading it is Claude Baker of Walla Walla who manages the Pacific Cooperative, wholesale, in that city. Lacking the power of eminent domain the only way this co-op could acquire PP&L would be through purchase. To do that it would have to pay a big price. This naturally raises the question whether it is proposed to capitalize the tax savings now allowed to cooperatives. If so it certainly would be a grave abuse of the exemption granted cooperatives on income taxes. Yet that apparently was the deal in Nebraska where American Power & Light got a huge price for Nebraska Power common stock.

OPA rules that prices of new automobiles can be only a little higher than in January, 1942. Then that means your trade-in car will get down fast to the same level.

Editorial Comment

QUICK SERVICE
One innovation promised the post-war world by the Pullman car builders is to be a cafeteria that can feed three times as many people as the familiar dining car. Waiting for a table and dawdling over a meal will be eliminated. Patrons can be handled with the speed of a quick-lunch room.

This may appeal to a Nation with a sense of hurry. Some persons wish to eat at once when appetite rings the bell. Most people hurry merely from habit.

The train will not get to the destination any quicker. The magazines will be no more interesting. Card luck will be no better. The merry little children whose parents let them romp in the aisles still will have sticky fingers.

Taking time to think the thing through, we wonder if the minutes saved by quick-fire feeding in the cafeteria will be worth the fun of eating leisurely in the good old dining car.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Sales Tax Cut

"Nice kitty," was what Claude Buchanan of Corvallis said as he pushed the sales tax cut (with four or five of its nine lives left) out in front of the state commission for study of Oregon taxes on Monday. Claude is president of the Oregon Taxpayers' federation. He is a farmer himself, but not of the Mort Tompkins-anti sales tax school.

The Taxpayers' federation is primarily opposed to property taxes. It wants to prevent further piling up of taxes on property; and to permit reduction of property taxes it would use a sales tax to supplement the income tax, already dedicated to property tax reduction.

The state commission is now set up in business with a tax expert, S. J. Barrick, to guide its investigations. It is getting around to holding hearings, which will provide an open forum for tax tinkers to present their schemes for plucking the tax goose and meeting the demand for more public revenues.

At this stage of the game the members of the commission chiefly must sit and listen. But knowing the convictions of some of the members we are sure they started backing off when Claude introduced his sales tax kitty. To them it smelled like one of those black-and-white striped animals that frequent the country lanes.

On Monday's market December rye touched \$1.92 1/4 a bushel at Chicago. This was 11 1/2% higher than wheat. Rye is a favorite speculative vehicle. Its volume is far smaller than that of wheat or corn, so traders can make its price swing in a much wider arc. The rye pit doesn't look like a safe place for amateurs.

General Douglas MacArthur has ordered the arrest of ex-Premier Koiso and Oregon-educated Yosuke Matsuoka who as foreign minister signed a pact with the axis powers. They are held for investigation and possible trial as war criminals. It's a bit difficult to see why Matsuoka should be accused as a war criminal. He was a mouthy, bitter foe of the United States; but that hardly makes him a war criminal. As far as the axis pact is concerned Japan never gave Germany and Italy any particular aid, greatly to Hitler's disgust. We certainly aren't going to start trying late enemies because they were patriotic to their own countries, are we? If so, we should make sure never to lose a war ourselves.

Interpreting The Day's News

By James D. White
Associated Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—(AP)—What Baron General Shigeuro Honjo did before he killed himself is perhaps more significant than the messy end he chose for his long military career.

He read in the morning papers that he was going to be arrested as a war criminal. As no one had come to arrest him, and as it already was nearly 24 hours after the order had gone out, he worked fast.

First he told his son that he would go to the palace and express his belief and take full responsibility.

Instead, in his office, he committed harakiri with a sword. He was in a hurry, so he still wore his uniform (although he has been retired since 1936) and did not don the traditional kimono.

In a note left behind, he admitted frankly: "I cannot endure as a soldier of our country to appear before a court of allied powers."

Given Barony for Conquest
The general, who was made a baron in 1935 for the conquest of Manchuria in 1931, made it clear that both as a Japanese and as a Japanese militarist he did not propose to submit to allied justice for what he has done—in other words he took his own life to show his conviction that everything he has done was right.

It remains to be seen what Japanese will say about his suicide, but in the relatively few such military suicides since the surrender there has been no Japanese disapproval reported except in the case of former Premier Hideki Tojo. There the criticism was merely that he bungled the job and did not follow traditional methods.

It is possible that some Japanese may say of Honjo: "Good riddance to the man who did as much as anyone to start World War II in Manchuria."

But the high probability is that most Japanese will be pleased that one more high Japanese militarist has avoided making an accounting of his career and his motives—which means Japan's—before allied justice. That is just human nature.

Trained Under Warlord
True, there was some murmur of doubt in Japan in 1936 about what the Kwantung army was doing in Manchuria. General Honjo was its commander in chief, after an army career which took him through the allied occupation of Siberia after World War I, and through two years as an advisor to the old bandit-warlord, Chang Tso-lin, of Manchuria.

In that job Honjo got his sights set squarely on Manchuria and how to grab it. In 1931 his army struck suddenly after some skullduggery about an incident, and took Manchuria easily.

When a league of nations commission branded this aggression, the Kwantung army set up the puppet empire of Manchoukuo and dared the world to do anything about it. The world did nothing. Japanese investment and fortune-hunters poured into Manchuria, developed it into an industrial empire, and the murmurs in Japan against Honjo and the Kwantung army fell off accordingly. It was all right. It worked. Japan was getting away with it.

It may be true that the world is better off without men like Shigeuro Honjo, but it may gain little when he uses his own death to give a shot in the arm to the spirit of Japanese militarism which he personified.



Another Major Engagement

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

THE BACK READER: A LIFE OF JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH IN LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS, edited by Hans T. David and Arthur Mendel (Newton: \$6).

"The ornament of his family, the pride of his country, and the dearest, most intimate favorite of the musical art" . . . so Bach was described by his first important biographer, Forkel, who was born in 1759, the year before Bach's death.

Nearly a century after his death, it was complained that his grave was no memorial to him in Leipzig, where he lived as Thomas-Schule cantor from 1723 on. It took the 19th century to restore to Bach his rightful reputation, and the 20th puts no bounds to its admiration; it would indeed go far beyond Forkel in honoring him.

This book proves it, as do the echoing concert halls. David and Mendel give us 400 pages of primary source material, contemporary letters, contracts, accounts, title pages, photographs, sections of musical scores. If Bach's renown were one whit less great, the editors would not have undertaken this mammoth task, performed with exemplary scholarship, nor the publishers printed it.

Bach was the culminating point in decades of experimentation in his country, France, Italy, England. He borrowed what he needed, made the most of it. With characteristic enthusiasm and a romantic disregard for facts, Wagner called him a miracle man, a revolutionary.

On the contrary, he simply grew out of already prepared soil, but grew marvelously. His extraordinary talents were recognized in his own time. It was in Leipzig chiefly that he encountered difficulties. Inviting him there only as third or fourth choice, his superiors in school and council quarreled with him.

Letters pro and con in the Ernesti dispute are reproduced. Genius wasn't enough to spare him the petty annoyances such as lesser men have to put up with; but there was enough of the stuff of lesser men in him to make him fight for the privileges attached to the position to which his genius elevated him.



(Continued from page 1)

due ceremony and entered into it from good faith by the young women. For the Americans however they were mere marriages of convenience. They do not expect to remain in Japan and do not expect to take their brides with them; which simply means broken faith which sullies the reputation of all Americans.

General Eisenhower favors granting permission for wives of service men to join them in the European theatre, both for enlisted men and for officers. This would be wholesome in many respects but would not solve the problem for the unmarried. And in many cases the wives would not be able to join their husbands because of illness, care of children, etc. It would moreover put an added strain on the already bad housing and food situation in Europe.

The best thing to do would be to bring the army home. But that can't be done all at once. Presumably we will have an army of occupation abroad for some considerable time. The immediate necessity is to establish better discipline and morale. The place to begin is with the officers. Their indecency sets a poor example for the soldiers.

It is too much to expect complete continence among thousands of young men, but breaches of morals can be greatly reduced by proper discipline. And at least there can be some education of the American soldier so that he doesn't assume that every female walking along the street of a foreign city is fair prey for his passions.

This is an old army problem, as the literature of wars and battles proves. We feel ashamed that our own officers have accomplished so little in handling this problem after the fighting ended, so that our troops are acquiring a bad reputation in the cities they occupy.

Father Makes Heroic Effort to Save Children

LEWISTON, Mont., Nov. 20.—(AP)—Two small ranch children were burned to death early today and their parents critically injured in an heroic attempt to save them from their flaming home.

Dead were Jacqueline, 6, and Geraldine Gore, 4.

With his clothing nearly all burned off and his badly-seared flesh exposed to near-zero temperatures, the father, Lloyd Gore, 31, struggled half a mile through deep snow for help after he had saved one of his children and was overcome in an attempt to rescue the others.

He had carried one-year-old Michael Wayne Gore to safety and was attempting to reach his two daughters when he was overcome by smoke and flames. Mrs. Gore, who is 26, went into the flaming house and dragged out her unconscious husband. She started back for the other children but by that time the flames were too intense.

Turkey Exhibit Entries Due Soon

McMINNVILLE, Nov. 20.—(AP)—Entries for the fifth annual Pacific coast turkey exhibit here Dec. 3-6 are expected to pass the 500 shown at the last show in 1941.

The premium list, doubled this year, includes \$1000 in prize money and 32 special awards. W. D. Bleitz will manage the show, open to the public Dec. 4 with the first day limited to receiving birds.

Judge for live birds is H. B. Griffin, Sonoma, Calif.; dressed birds, F. E. Fox, Corvallis.

West Linn Paper Plant Will Expand

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—(AP)—Crown Willamette Paper company has furnished plans to contractors for expansion of its West Linn, Oregon, plant, for manufacture of book paper.

PROFESSOR ZANE DIES

EUGENE, Nov. 20.—(AP)—Death of Nowland Britton Zane, University of Oregon associate professor emeritus of space arts, was reported here today. Zane, who retired from the university faculty in fall of 1944 because of ill health, died Sunday night at his Siltcoos Lake home. The widow, and two children—Marjorie C. and Carlton M.—survive.

ASK SALE OF FISH

ASTORIA, Nov. 20.—(AP)—Sale of halibut caught in drag fishing nets is sought by the Otter Trawlers union, which has petitioned the International halibut commission. To aid conservation, the commission requires all halibut to be line-caught, and those accidentally trapped during drag fishing can't be sold. The dead fish are wasted, the union said.

CLOSURE DATES GIVEN

CORVALLIS, Nov. 20.—(AP)—The state AAA today advised farmers to note these closing dates for 1945 commodity loan programs: Dec. 15—Late potato crop; Dec. 21—Wheat, barley, flaxseed, rye and oats; Feb. 15—Austrian field peas, hay and pasture grass seeds.

PORTLAND MERCURY 29

PORTLAND, Nov. 20.—(AP)—The temperature here skidded to a season's low of 29 today, recorded at Portland airport. The downtown weather station had a minimum 34.

Eisenhower 'Takes Over' Legion Meet

CHICAGO, Nov. 20.—(AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, the army's new acting chief of staff, told the American Legion tonight he favored the nation's fighting forces and a universal military training program with a minimum of one year's instruction.

The five star general's speech at the national commander's banquet climaxed a day in which Eisenhower practically took over the 27th annual convention of the Legion.

Earlier the supreme commander of allied forces in the European theater had received the Legion's distinguished service medal from National Commander Edward Scheiberling after a tumultuous welcome in the convention hall that brought tears to the eyes of the recipient.

Tonight, the balding Eisenhower delivered in an overflowing ballroom of the Palmer House the address which he had previously announced would be "the most important of my career."

In his prepared address Eisenhower emphasized "the priceless battlefield value of training," and asserted "this value has persisted during all the wars of history."

And then, turning to the controversial issue of unification of the war and navy departments, Eisenhower declared: "Every consideration of efficiency, economy and progress in research demands the closest possible unity among all our fighting forces, all the way from the top to the bottom," he said. "This great and necessary purpose, I believe can be best achieved by unified control at the top."

Defense Starts Case in Trial Of Yamashita

MANILA, Wednesday, Nov. 21.—(AP)—Col. Harry Clarke, chief defense counsel today assailed the motives of prosecution witnesses Joaquin Galang and Narciso Lupas as he opened the defense of Lt. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, on trial for his life accused of condoning wholesale atrocities by his Japanese troops.

Clarke produced letters which he said showed both had offered to assist American (prosecution) authorities if they were given consideration of their own cases and safe conduct out of the Philippines.

Both Galang and Lupas face trial in Philippine courts as collaborationists.

Clarke said he would show that Yamashita never gave his consent for, nor ordered, atrocities and that communications were poor and he could not reach certain areas readily.

He said later from Luppuss asked the counter-intelligence corps for protection, money, supplies and for passage to "New York or any other Latin American country" in exchange for testifying against Yamashita.

Yamashita showed great composure and even smiled yesterday as the prosecution ended its case against him and the U. S. military commission trying him rejected a defense motion for acquittal.

Plane Seats Will Go to Veterans

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—(AP)—Airlines started plans yesterday to make available for returning soldiers about 70 per cent of the seats on flights from the Pacific coast. Traffic executives of the airlines met here to discuss what they described as operational problems.



SILVER—Col. C. M. McGuarrie of Chicago, commander of the 132nd Infantry, examines one of the silver bars uncovered in Japan and taken to Haratsuka naval depot.

Prof's Divide Opinions on Draft Question

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—(AP)—Educators presented a divided front on universal military training today at a house military committee hearing.

Dr. George F. Zook of Washington, president of the American council on education, flatly opposed the proposal outlined by President Truman to congress last month.

Dr. George William McLelland of Philadelphia, president of the University of Pennsylvania, supported it on the ground there was "no satisfactory alternative" in keeping the nation prepared.

As an alternative to legislation which would require every able-bodied youth to take one year of military training at or near the age of 18, Dr. Zook proposed:

- (1) Elimination through international agreement of compulsory military services from the practices and policies of all nations.
- (2) Appointment by the president of a national commission to study every aspect of defense before congress acts on compulsory training.
- (3) Establishment of definite quotas of minimum military needs to assure defense, with every effort made to meet these needs through voluntary enlistments.
- (4) That "we concentrate upon the fundamental and vital issue of world organization to preserve peace and security by strengthening the existing United Nations organization."

Sunday School Groups Attend Dallas Church

PEDEE — Kings Valley and Pedee Sunday schools were invited to the Evangelical church at Dallas Sunday to hear the Rev. Sandburg, a returned missionary from China.

Mrs. Sarah Bush of Kings Valley is visiting her sister, Mrs. Simpson, at Simpson's camp.

Archie Kerber and party of four from Gold Beach were elk hunting at Heppner and got the limit of elk.

PASTOR TO LEAVE PORTLAND

PORTLAND, Nov. 20.—(AP)—Dr. John Leyoldt will leave his pastorate at Trinity Baptist church here and go to Bethany Baptist church, Milwaukee, Wis., officials said today.

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GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"We're glad to have you back Snodgrass, but I disagree that if it hadn't been for the war you'd have my job now!"