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the statesman publishing company


Flax at Program Meetings Farmers of Oregon are to hold meetings in
coming weeks to oonsider their 1946 farm pro-
gram. Federal and state authorities will meet
with them to give them the latest and best
Information respecting probable market demands for crops and livestock. On the basis of
this information broad policié of operations
will be recommended. Final decision of what will be recommended. Final decision of what
to grow rests, of course, with the farmer himThe Statesman would like to urge these
farmer groups in the valley counties to give
special attention to flax in their discussions. We have reached the point where in the central
valley more acreage is needed to supply the
verifting plants with flax for processing. There existing plants with flax for processing. There
is even demand in some quarters that the state
plant close down or reduce its operations to give the private plants a better show. We ought to make no retreat in flax-grow-
ing. Instead the acreage should be expanded to provide adequate supplies for the retting and
scutching plants. We have here an expansion
of the industry in the way ó a plant which will use large quantities of tow for rope and
for rugs. OHer expansion mpay come if there
ts assurance of an is assurance of an abundant supply.
It is true that flax-growing has not been or three years. But those other crops may not
always yield the profit they have. Farmers can well alford to devote enough of their arces to
maintain the flax industry here. This pioneermain is necessary top provide a firm base for the
manutacture of flax fiber into articles of commerce.
We hope the county committees and the col-
lege experts will be sure to include flax on
the agenda of their propram conterences.

## Losses of Military Planes

-What a tragic roll the record of losses of
militity planes and personnel in recent weeks
makes. Some like the five naval planes los midury planes and personnel in recent weeks
makes. Some, ilike the five naval planes lost
off Florida, apparently were caught in sudden atorms. Most of the othere caught in sudden
were flyying into
anditions. The transport plane at Bill storm conditions. The transport plane at Bill-
ings erashed when it tried to land in a snow-
While these losses have occurred with arm
and navy planes there has been no serious los
 the army and navy planes take the risks whteh
the veteran civilian pilots will not do ti peacetime; there is no great urgency for mili
tary -planes to take off into the storms, Sinc there is added reason for caution. to overestimate his own skill, to figure he can
get through. But when his plane is high in the hem him in, then he mayy become helpless.
Only Lady Luck will ride with him to a safe
landing. The field commanders should have authority to ground planes and keep them there until
weather conditions ceear. Perhasp they have
that authority now. Then they should exercise it more than they do. It is a bitter loss to have
personnel who have survived the war die in
airplane crashes that might have been avoided.
The army and navy should be more evigitant to The army and navy should be more vigiiant to
spare the country and the families of men these

## Injury to Gen. George Patton <br> It was General Patton's mistortune to come through the war without a wound only to suffer critical inf war withos in an a a wound only to suffer aceident was similar to thousands which. The oceur In this country. An army truck which oceur main highway from a side road, erashing into Patton's car which was traveling to nheim. Patton himself was the only person Injured, and now lies partially paralyzed in hospital at Heidelberg. The country which owes much to his gallat leadership, resrets his injuries and hopes for his speedy and <br> The injury to Patton points up the fact that the automobile is a lethal weapon as truly as the sutomebile is a lethal weapon as itruly as Most deathe and injuries due to anto anto acidents are preventable; but the end of the war and resumption of motor traffic in volume is making casualty lists mount rapidty. People wear the slopan "satety first" in reiterating it, but fail to apply "nifety rules to their own travel. <br> Land Reforms in Japan <br> Arthur has ordered for Japan may prove the moote enduring of all the revolutionary changee boling eet up may not last. The wiping out of family induitrial and financial blocs may be superveded by 3ome new aggregation of capital. But once put the peasant In ownership of the land he tills and he will rarely part with it land ae tius and he wire verciey of feudalism remaln, lanid reforms are needed. That is true in Japan where the farmers have been virt berts tied to the land, deriving a scanty sub pistence as they Ahare their produce with their fandlord. If the Japanese peasints can become land-owneri, they ean be put on the path to patricipation io governent and to a highe atandard of living. They, at least, may be jermanently erateful to their country's con

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Price Control on Housing President Truman's endorsement of price con-
trol over real estate in the efort to head oft
infation is of doubtul virtue The "orese" infration is of doubtrul virtue The "horse" hal
already been stolen trom the unlocked stable. The proper antidote ie construction, and now
that the lumber strike has largely been ended
this will



 will l uuickly yome off the top of the price level
of old houses. of old houses.e masis for the president's pro-
Tosal to restore a priorities system for building


The right slogan of the times might be taken
from the "even Dwarfs" song: "Back to work we go." Prices, inflation, housing, appliances,
automobiles all will get into fair balance if
work is resumed. It must be resumed shortly.
People still must eat!

## Early Settlement?

We shall not be surprised if the UAW and
GMC get together on a new contraet before
long. After all long. After all, 210,000 workers do not like
to be walking the streets or doing picket duty or sitting at home with no weekly pay en-
velope. And the company doeent relish having
plants idle while overhead expense eats into
reserves.
There is another reason-meither side likes
the fact-finding committee proposal of Presi-
dent Truman's. The company has no stomach
for opening its books and the union doesn't
want any government body looking into its
throat. Mutual fear of government may prompt
better relations between management and labor
leaders.
The sparring for position has gone on long
enough. Time now to be biting into the barrier
which separates the groups, so that an agree-
ment can be reached. The public doesnt want
to have to settle the row; but it wants it set-
tled, and soon.
Interpreting The Day's News

## By James Dr white Aesoctated Pree statr writer



The Heat's On
The Literary
News Behind the News Guidepost



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Former Salem Resident Dies

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had excellent precparatton Walter
dergran-
the Unite and law courses at
the University of Oregon, a year
in Harvard law schoo, foreign
travel. He served two terms in
trave. He served two terms
the state legislature, made
unsuceessful race for republica
unsuccessful race for republican
nomination for congres. He left
his law practice to voluteer in
the army and rose to the rank
the army and rose to to the rank in
of captain. He served in the ent
telligence division of the eiehhth
army air force and made flights
army air force and made fighigts
over Germany at the height of
the air war on that country. He
at 36 matured, experienc
His nommination merits the
Mrs. Godfrey
Dies on Visit

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PORTLAND COUPLE
ANNOUNCE BIRTH

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haskils at home
her home at 68 Haskill returned to
int with her
intant son. They were dismissed
from Salem General hospital on
daughter to
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Freeman an-
nounce the brith of a daughter at
Deaconess hospital Monday aternoconess hospital Monday atter-
non. The Freemans reside at
Dalla.
SALEM COUPLE PARENTS
Mr. and Mr. Richard Noll, 1070
E. Lafelle st, announce the birth E. Latelle st, announce the birth
of a daughter at Deaconess hos-
pital Monday The baby weighed
ipounds 5 ounces bay Johnsons AnNounce birth Mr. and Mrs. George Johnson
announce the birth of a daughter
Sundiay at Deacones hospital. The
Johnsons reatide at 11580 Center Woodsurn Covilue Parents
Mr. and Mr. Leo Erwert are
the parents of a girl born Sunday

Jewelry sifts for men




