

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## Labor Must "Bargain"

The current wave of strikes proves that high wages are no deterrent to striking. Those in the highest wage brackets of mass production industry, like the motor workers are on strike at GMC. Another well paid group, the electric workers, have voted to strike; and the steelworkers, whose wages are the highest in history, have set January 14 for walking out, despite their own contract with a no-strike provision in it. In Seattle, printers who already enjoy a very high wage and have been offered a very substantial increase are still striking, depriving that city of its daily newspapers.

This is the end result of unionism which becomes monopoly. Collective bargaining becomes a joke when the union leaders do as the steelworkers did, throw down a demand for \$2.00 a day increase at the first session with employers and announce there would be "no bickering and no compromise." That is not collective bargaining, it is collective holdup.

In Seattle the publishers negotiated with the regular scale committee of the typographical union, came to an agreement which was initiated by both parties, including the representatives of the international. When it was submitted to the union for ratification it was rejected. That, of course is the privilege of the union, but it denies a fundamental of bargaining, which means that both sides come to an agreement—and stick there.

Meantime, see what happens: Willys Motor company has been down for some time in producing jeeps because of strike in a gear works in another state. Briggs is shutting down in Detroit because the strike of glass workers shuts off the supply of plate glass for makers of automobile bodies. Packard tapers off its run for lack of parts from struck suppliers. The ones who suffer in this chain of consequences are the workers who are laid off, as well as the employer.

Labor can't claim the rights of collective bargaining and repudiate its responsibility to bargain. It can't operate as a monopoly and expect the public to support its cause. The prevailing epidemic of strikes is building up resentment which may find expression in legislation taking away from labor the "rights" which now it is abusing.

## The Aftermath of War

On the optimistic side of the picture in this worried world, there stands out one paramount fact—despite the tragic deaths in action and the thousands of disrupted homes, the United States after three and a half years of war has emerged with potential manpower far stronger than before the conflict.

This all-important item, coupled with the fact that neither our cities nor our countryside shared in the flaming destruction of other lands, is in marked contrast to nearly every other nation in the world—and a transcendent cause for thanksgiving.

From Jan. 1, 1942 to July 1, 1945, the census bureau listed 10,569,000 births. Deaths on the battlefield totaled 263,000, and from other causes 5,137,000.

In the next 12-month period, hundreds of thousands of servicemen will settle into civilian life, marry and begin rearing families so that an additional sharp increase in births—as was recorded after the last war—is inevitable. Statistics now indicate that in the 1940-50 decade, the net population gain probably will approximate 13,000,000, compared with less than 8,000,000, from 1930-40.

There is nothing in these figures to paint a Pollyanna picture of war or justify its recurrence. But they provide new assurance that the physical strength of this nation is adequate for its role in world affairs.

The situation in China is one to give observers palpitation of the heart. Conditions there seem to swing with the regularity of a pendulum, alternating from optimism to pessimism, from hope for Chinese unity to fears of internal warfare. At the moment the pendulum is on the optimistic swing with some prophecies of compromise between the nationalists and communists. Within a week it may change. The one encouraging sign is that there still isn't very much shooting of bullets going on, mostly verbal bombings.

The negro who tackled Bishop Bruce Baxter didn't know the bishop was something of a college athlete in his day. It happens he was a track man, a 100-yard dash sprinter at Oberlin; but he didn't use what remains of his fleetness in running from his assailant. His friends admire his courage and hope his injuries do not prove serious; but suggest that next time he use his feet instead of his hands.

## Editorial Comment

### YAMAMOTO'S CRYSTAL BALL

All this time we have thought the late Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto a scoundrel and a fool, and now we must retract; he was not a fool.

Most famous for his speech about dictating peace terms in the White House, Admiral Yamamoto had seemed just another Japanese primitive who did not know his own country's strength—or relative lack of it.

It now comes out, in the posthumous memoirs of Prince Konoye, that Admiral Yamamoto knew more about relative strength than had seemed; he knew all there was to know. Konoye asked him before Pearl Harbor about Japan's chances in a war against the United States. Yamamoto replied: "We will run around it until for about half a year or a year. But if it stretches into two or three years I have no confidence in a successful ending." That's calling it, Admiral!—San Francisco Chronicle.

## War Coordination

Navy-minded Astorian-Budget picks up Walter Lippman's suggestion that the president instruct the chiefs of staff—General Eisenhower and Admiral Nimitz—to get together and develop a plan for governing the military forces. Both the A-B and Lippman seem to forget that there was a joint board study made, which concluded that a single department of national defense was advisable. This was signed by the navy members except Admiral Richardson. Later, however, the navy officers retracted their recommendation. Admiral Nimitz himself "changed his mind" on the subject. The Washington high naval officers, headed by Admiral King, have been violently opposed to consolidation, fearing the navy would be unduly subordinated.

Carl Vinson, chairman of the house naval affairs committee, is very unhappy over President Truman's endorsement of the unification plan. A veteran legislator who has concentrated on naval affairs, it is only natural that Vinson should reflect the navy viewpoint. But the solution will never be found merely by listening to the conclusions of partisans who are already steeped in their convictions. Broad-minded statesmen, studying the facts and reviewing the opinions of all parties, will write the ticket for the future.

From what we have learned of the business of running a modern war we conclude that unification is needed. And one place where there should be better coordination is between the armed services and industry. We have no doubt if the full story could be related that there was serious mismanagement of manpower, huge errors of judgment in placing orders for goods that could not be used. If there had been joint navy-army control, surely the Alcan highway would never have been built, or the Canal oil project. We won the war, all right, but not without big blunders both in planning and executing. Fortunately few of the blunders resulted in loss of life, for the military plans were executed with great success, despite the frequent lack of coordination of the services.

There is one bill for \$100 which taxpayers will pay with a chuckle rather than a gripe. It was presented to congress by Rastus Davis of Winona, Tex., who said a trail from his depleted watermelon patch led straight to a nearby army camp. If Rastus' watermelons contributed to the winning of this war, he can be a proud man.

Right now is a good time to remember that insurance company's statement as to why people live longer now than in former times—more of them climb into bed when they're sick instead of simulating a martyr's front and trudging off to school or work where a dozen or so others may catch their infection.

It seems like the Willamette valley has had just about everything this year except a blizzard and seven-year locusts.

## Just a Year Ago

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22—(P)—A year ago tonight the armies of General Dwight Eisenhower were making one of the greatest defensive fights in American history and, to Adolf Hitler's last desperate bid for victory, one man stood up and said "Nuts!" It was almost Christmas in Bastogne.

The "screaming eagles" of the 101st airborne division, with some elements of other divisions trapped by the advancing Germans, hardly 10,000 men in all, were standing off five Nazi divisions and parts of three others. The little town, a hub of the Belgian road system down which Hitler had hoped to drive to Liege and Antwerp, was surrounded.

The Americans were fighting from fence rows, roadsides, and from shattered buildings, not from prepared positions. Supplies were short. Tomorrow they would receive more by parachute from C-47's circling overhead. But, on the night of December 22, they were short, and the Germans thought the Yanks were whipped.

The German commander sent in a surrender ultimatum. Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe replied with his famous, laconic "Nuts!" Just a year ago tonight.

Christmas Eve at Bastogne in 1944 was "quiet," according to the official regimental journals. Compared with others during the week in which the ten thousand held off a hundred thousand, it was quiet. But in the surrounding fields and behind the rubble piles of the town's outskirts, Americans fought ceaselessly to prevent these Germans from joining the others in the "bulge" who would eventually be trapped and torn to pieces because of the men who stood fast at Bastogne.

That night McAuliffe chose to tell his men of his reply to the German ultimatum, and it sent a wave of enthusiasm through the troops. Red maps of the encircling German positions, overlaid with a big green "Merry Christmas" went out to the troops.

General Patton, suddenly wheeling north with an army which had been headed directly east, even then was driving his men with almost superhuman speed toward the relief of Bastogne. His tanks and lorries bore the Christmas present—relief—which McAuliffe had said privately was the finest the 101st could have. McAuliffe knew they needed it, but his men refused to admit it. They just faced the encircling Germans and, as Cpl. William H. Fowler of Jacksonville, Fla., put it, "mowed 'em down." They fought on ammunition dropped from the sky; treated their wounded with cognac and courage; and described themselves to rear headquarters as "the hole in the doughnut."

Patton's men arrived, cutting northward through the Germans, but two days late for Christmas. Those of McAuliffe's men who could fight no longer were carried out, those who were able stayed on to finish the job, and the dead were buried. Intertwined with them were the last hopes of the nation. Christmas of 1944, in Bastogne, had seen to that.



## News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The public received but a faint notion of the life-death machinations of the navy top command (not the young fellows) to defeat the unification of the armed forces. Finally navy Secretary Forrestal secretly hid himself to certain invisible advisers behind the White House and sought a deal against the basic General George (ATC) plan of aligning the bureaus into one department, so as to increase navy power in the new setup.

This was the last attempt in a grandiose campaign which navy's Admiral King started immediately after the George report had been disclosed exclusively in detail in this column—a report which King had suppressed by bottling it in the joint chiefs of staff since last April when it was submitted, marked urgent.



Paul Mallon

Navy Feels Self Shipping

The navy is not fundamentally opposed to the theory of unification, in my opinion. It feels itself slipping. The battleship is not obsolete or even obsolescent. Its usage has merely been surpassed in importance by new weapons, recently the plane and now directed missiles including the atomic bomb. Its airer fit carriers are valuable for sea commerce purposes, but for really effective bombing, a land-based plane is needed. Ship aircraft cannot carry the necessary heavy loads of today's big bombs.

The whole navy is going the same way. The frontier of America is now in Canada and the northern wastes, to which place a defense commission recently has been dispatched, to study

the air up to 40,000 feet through which directed missiles are likely to come from Europe to this country.

Invasion by ships has become a minor threat now that it is feasible for thousands of planes to carry armies the shorter air route across the northlands.

Truth Must Be Accepted

To observe this scientific fact is not an expression of prejudice against sea defenses, but merely an acceptance of the glaring truth that their importance is secondary (to keep sea lanes open for supplies, to watch the back door of our shoreline, etc.)

To the navy this means diminishing appropriations, power, jobs and rank in the scheme of defense, and the admirals have sought to beat the facts of science by keeping their show separate. In a single department, their importance will face review by air and land men.

So they pulled every inner political wire to keep the president from getting the George report, the congress from acting upon it and the White House from endorsing it. Faced now with defeat they want to make the unification in such a way as to protect themselves as much as possible.

Rotation Concession

The courage of Mr. Truman in resisting this connivance was firm. He gave but an inch. This inch suggests the office of chief of staff rotate among the three separate departments of the armed forces, at two or three year intervals, and that a coordination bureau work out the detailed organization underneath.

These are the only concessions Mr. Forrestal appears to have won in his last-minute contriving. The navy may be able to make this inch a mile and achieve a political power in the new department beyond the realities of

its importance, if congress follows Mr. Truman's recommendation in these two instances (and this is possible because the navy is powerful inside congress.)

### Inside Game Starts

Around this point, at any rate, now hinges the inside game. The navy no longer can hope to stop unification. Indeed, it cannot delay legislation beyond 90 days now. The commander-in-chief has now spoken. But it plainly still hopes to keep its old game going somehow or another in the new department.

What the situation demands is a thorough shakedown of old blood and traditions in the new single department, and General Eisenhower is the man to do it.

What is needed is not a compromise between the forces of air, army and navy, and rotating influence, but command by a man who knows the proper value of all three and how to keep each in its right place.

Eisenhower as supreme allied commander is the only man who has used all three—in North Africa, Italy and France (MacArthur's command was divided). He is not bound by partisan obsessions, but properly encouraged, would wield judicious authority, fair to all.

### Danger Apparent

Imagine a navy man who had never directed land-air operations functioning two or three years as chief of staff over all three branches! Such a course plainly would be unwise, if not dangerous to national defense to a Pearl Harbor extent.

Thus, at the moment of a great victory for an efficient armed force, there is a grave underlying danger that the whole purpose of the move will be lost as usual in politics, armed service politics, which will decree compromises, where leadership is called for.

This is a job Mr. Truman will have to meet, because congress can only furnish him the requested tools.

## The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

U.S. CAMERA 1946 VICTORY VOLUME, photographs selected by Capt. Edward Steichen, USNR, edited by Tom Maloney (published by U.S. Camera, distributed by Duff, Sloss & Pearce; \$4.50).

Here are nearly 400 pages of the cream of the war photographs in the final year of the struggle, and it seems to me very unlikely that you'll ever see a better book in this field.

There's some text, but it's mostly pictures and the fact that Steichen selected them is a guarantee that they're the best available... among other sources was Press Association. You will have seen some of them in newspapers, but the reproductions gain a lot on smooth-finish paper.

They are classified: Roosevelt, Europe, war children, submarines, air raids, Pacific mop-up, Philippines, South China sea, Manila, Iwo Jima, Kamakaze and so on.

THE GERMANS IN HISTORY, by Prince Subertus zu Loewenstein (Columbia; \$5).

Germany as you view here under the aspect of the constant conflict between nationalism and internationalism, or the pull toward a unified European-Mediterranean world and the opposite pull toward sectional dominance.

They are viewed also on the basis of a philosophy of history stemming from Apostolic times

## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

of gambling laws," added this counterweight as sop to local sentiment:

"It recommends to the law enforcement bodies a policy in this respect which takes into consideration the character and needs of Klamath county, including its topography, industry and inhabitants."

What this means is simply to instruct the authorities that Klamath county is peculiar and as one of the centers of the cattle and lumbering industry it ought to survive as an antique, a reproduction of Dead Man's Gulch or Cowboy Shantytown, with a tolerance of the old customs which modern movies say are authentic, like gambling, easy liquor and easier women. Which is pretty much bunk. Cow hands and loggers drive automobiles and get to town every few days. They have radios and daily newspapers; and most of them are married, with homes of their own. The urges and the restraints of a population of 20,000 people do not vary greatly over the state of Oregon—and gambling, I have noted, is tolerated in towns noted for piety. The local demand for the unlawful vices springs puite as much from the vendors and profiteers as it does from the customers; and the former class are much more powerful politically.

It would seem that the time has come for Klamath Falls and the other cities with a wild west complex to mature. The law should not run out south of Bend and east of Ashland, nor east of Heppner, nor west of Clatskanie. The Klamath grand jury instead of patting the enforcement officials mildly on the back and then slapping them briskly in the face should grow up, too; and recognize that its community deserves to live within the orbit of decency established by the laws of the state.

through St. Augustine and on down. The French revolution, consequently, seems to this author-prince a moral retrogression, the Marxian creed is the "greatest of earthly heresies of our age;" and society "should be a mirror of the Kingdom and a type of Christ's Mystical Body."

Loewenstein lauds Bismarck's Ems dispatch; quotes Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, to whom he dedicates the book, in praise of Kaiser Wilhelm II; regrets the overthrow of Napoleon III, regards Belgian-French invasion of the Ruhr in 1923 as a "gross violation" of the Versailles treaty; calls indeed for people to "abandon the unthinking notion that a republic per se is something superior to monarchy."

It may intrigue you no end, but seems to me unlikely to convince you.

## The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

### SINS OF PARENTS

To the Editor:

I am just an ordinary citizen too. Nor have I been near the boys' training school, but I am the mother of two teen-age boys and feel qualified to speak my piece.

I know "if" is a big word, but if the following were true we'd have fewer problem children.

If more people, especially parents, would attempt to understand children from babyhood up.

If they would only look down underneath that crusty exterior to a child's heart.

If women could only realize that raising a good citizen is more worthwhile, more satisfying, than a career.

If more women would stay in the home and make a real home out of it.

In other words, if we would instill just a little of the good old fashioned "home and mother" ideas in our own sons and daughters, future generations of children wouldn't be whipped for the sins of their parents.

Mrs. C. C. Stevens  
1293 N. 5th.

### DEPORT THE OBSTRUCTIONISTS

To the Editor:

I read in yesterday's paper that Gov. Snell is thinking of signing or not papers ordering deportation of Walter E. Baer who is now chief assistant engineer in construction and repairing of naval vessels. His misdoings of 20 years ago have been paid for. Why not turn to unheard of doings now? With building material very scarce, fuel also, and a poor chance for it to be better soon, why not deport the instigators and their side kickers who uphold strikes. If I remember right Harry Bridges was ordered once or twice, a long time ago, to be deported. It is plain to be seen Walter Baer has repented of his wrong doings of 25 years ago and is doing things of benefit to the U. S. and the returning soldiers who fought for our protection.

E. B. Cochran  
Salem.

### Reclamation Survey Slated for The Dalles

In event \$1,500,000, recently reinstated in the general deficiency bill is retained and approved a survey of reclamation possibilities in The Dalles area will start early next spring. John W. Kelly, Oregon post-war commission, was advised by federal officials Saturday.

The Dalles reclamation proposal covers a large area of fruit lands which in a dry year, suffer from lack of irrigation.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"Do you have to patch up last year's tree?—Can't you forget you're a tree surgeon just once, and buy a new tree?"

Christmas Won't Wait!

Christmas is almost here. Buy quickly, but buy wisely! Come in to make your selections of quality gifts that will mean much to those who receive them. Our name on the gift package means something very special!

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