

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Double Haul on Metals

Disclosure that large quantities of aluminum shipped to Europe under ECA have been reshipped to the United States as scrap metal, at fancy prices, has given a shock to ECA officials and to the American public. Britain, Belgium and The Netherlands bought about 100,000 pounds of aluminum and lead scrap in Canada and Newfoundland and then sold back one-fifth of it to U. S. buyers. They paid 16 cents a pound for the aluminum, with ECA dollars, and resold it for from 27 to 30 cents a pound. ECA also financed the purchase of lead for the Low Countries, which turned round and shipped half of it back to this country, at a profit.

The ECA buying program has thus worked to the injury of the United States. The importing countries traded their "bridge prizes" for goods they wanted more from America. It certainly doesn't set well with the U. S. And ECA has ordered a cutback of 34,500 tons in allotments for Marshall-plan countries.

The matter comes to public attention just before congress meets when it will be confronted with appeals from ECA for an extra billion dollars to carry the program through the fiscal year. Later will come requests for another five or six billions for another year of Marshall-plan assistance.

There is no doubt that these expenditures have helped notably in reviving European economic life. All reports agree to that. The news is trickling through to the soviet satellites that they really missed the boat when they heeded Moscow dictum to abstain from sharing in Uncle Sam's bounty. We are happy to learn of this recovery which in the end should benefit this country as well as the ones on the receiving end.

But there are also reports that the beneficiaries are slow to embark on self-help, slow to exchange goods among themselves as was contemplated in the program of economic union of west Europe. And they have been very, very slow to step up at the loan counter to borrow money provided in the ERP act. These facts will be in mind when congress discusses the appropriations for further ECA financing.

It would seem that our aid should be continued under a schedule of progressive diminution. As the economic machinery of Europe gets a start it should gather its own momentum, which would reduce dependence on this country. The steady extraction of wealth from this country will have to be under control for the protection of our own people. We hope the administration when it slips the bill under the door of congress for ECA for another year will set out a progressive reduction until we get to the bottom of the stairs in a few years. We need to know that, and so do the countries of Europe.

Airline Merger

Immediately after the war there was a great controversy among airline companies to get permits for overseas flying. Pan American Airways which had pioneered very successfully in service to foreign lands exerted itself to the utmost in support of its "chosen instrument" idea, which meant that it would be given a virtual monopoly so far as American aviation was concerned in foreign business. Several ambitious domestic lines opposed this theory and made a plea for permits to operate on selected routes.

The civil aeronautics board, with approval of the president, did grant several lines permits for overseas routes, though it did not throw the door wide open. The results have not been very satisfying to those jumping into this business. The expansion, with other troubles nearly broke the back of TWA. And now American Overseas lines, owned by American Airlines, a strong

Japan War Trials Raise Legal Query

By Reiman Morin
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP)—The case of Japan's war criminals came before the supreme court today.

Very probably, the court will add no more than a few lines to the long and astonishing—and possibly questionable—story of the war crimes trials. It is not yet examining the actual convictions, nor the death sentences.

But perhaps some comment may be made, some opinion rendered, on the fundamental theory behind the trials that were held first in Nuremberg for the German rulers, and more recently in Tokyo for the Japanese. They may throw some light on these two questions:

1. Is it legal for the victors to act as prosecutors, jury and judge in a trial of the vanquished?

2. Where do you draw the line of responsibility between a policy-maker, who plotted aggressive warfare, and an official or a military officer, who carried out that policy?

Some noted jurists in all parts of the world have seriously questioned, and bitterly criticized, the whole process. Let's not get lost on any detours.

There is no argument that crimes are committed when captured allied airmen were executed, and when political prisoners in the concentration

camp were put to death. International conventions of long standing have marked such acts as murder.

It is in the sphere of policy-making where doubt exists, where history has been written—and where later history may render severe judgment on us all.

To take the second question first, the question of responsibility—

Behind a desk at the pentagon today is Lieut. Gen. Albert Wedemeyer, a highly capable and efficient officer. Gen. Wedemeyer is deputy chief-of-staff for plans and combat operations. If we were to lose a war, Gen. Wedemeyer most certainly would be classed as "a planner."

He might even be called a "policy-maker" because it is impossible to divorce political considerations from military and strategic factors.

And so, following the pattern that applied at Tokyo and Nuremberg, the general would be classed as a "war criminal."

But the general, important as he is, stands only on the sixth rung down in a chain-of-command.

At the top is the president of the United States, then the secretary of defense, then the secretary of the army, then the chief of staff, then the vice-chief of staff—and finally, Wedemeyer.

If we lost a war, Wedemeyer could certainly be accused of having "planned" it. That's his

job, to plan. He could say, as German and Japanese officers said, that they got their orders from above.

At what point, then, as you go down the line all the way to a corporal, do you draw the line? At what point do you say, "This man made the plans, whereas this one only carried them out?"

An answer was given at Nuremberg by Justice Jackson, in his opening statement. "Common sense," he said. He recognized lower and upper ranks, but he said, "The charges imply common sense limits to liability, just as they place common sense limits on immunity."

But the question then arises: Whose common sense? Common sense is not law. It cannot be specifically defined. It differs with the individual. Would you like to be tried for your life on that standard? For the matter, do you enjoy playing bridge with the "common sense" player?

Yet, there is an interesting fact. The Germans with whom I talked had no sympathy with Goering or the other government officials. They did feel the military chiefs were unjustly convicted. Yesterday, I was talking to a Japanese newspaperman. He said the Japanese have no sympathy for Tojo. They do feel, he said, that Koki Hirota was a victim of circumstances rather than an active planner.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

"double feature." First there is the star himself who gives his name to the show. Then, he invites a guest star who seems to be one of the same guild. In most cases the gag lines are prepared for the visitor and all he has to do is recite them. Any good radio actor could do that, but the big names get the all-around money. To the country consumers it looks as though they might crack open the monopoly, but the stars seem to work on the basis of scratching each other's backs (when they aren't pulling each other's hair).

Changes are going to come and come fast, however. The "first generation" in radio is getting old. New people are coming along. And soon perhaps we'll have some new gags too. The tailoring on a lot of the current patter is obvious before it breaks.

Hollywood On Parade

By Gene Handsaker

HOLLYWOOD — Bob Hope's nose hasn't always had such a pronounced curve as it does now. It always so broad at the base. One summer vacation in Cleveland, when he was 16, Bob worked for his brother, a power-company foreman. The job was clearing a road. Bob's job was climbing each nearly chopped-down tree and tying on a rope, so the tree could be pulled over. But one tree was backed through farther than he thought, and it fell before he could slide to the ground. Bob rode it down, and he landed with the trunk smashed his face, left scars on his chin, lip and brow. Bob was unconscious 36 hours, during which the doctor remolded his shattered nose.

I asked Bob whether all things considered it wasn't really a lucky break, since he has capitalized on his "ski nose" or "scop nose." Bob reflected: "Who knows? You don't think a Paramount talent scout was down there chopping that tree down, do you?" Bob's currently showing the camera his upturned beak in "Easy Does It."

The tensest two minutes I've experienced on a set lately was on the "Samson and Delilah" stage when Director Cecil B. DeMille didn't like the particular headband that had been put on Samson Vic Mature. DeMille, usually a charming gent, can get quiet thunder and lightning into his tones. He speaks his commands softly into a microphone that carries his words all over the stage. He called for still pictures that would show which headband Mature was wearing in a previous scene which this scene was supposed to match. To an assistant (in microphone) he said: "How many people I'm paying to know such things. Maybe we can get rid of a few." Such activity you never saw—one wardrobe man started hacking a fresh headband from leather—but soon Vic had the proper one.

Betty Grable's enjoying her first venture into slatstick comedy in "The Beautiful Blonde from Bashful Bend." As a straight-shootin' school marm, she blasts inkwells off the shaggy domes of two prankish pupils. Sterling Holloway and Danny Jackson. She shoots cigarettes out of their mouths and whisky bottles out of their hands. Prop men have made 600 breakaway kettles, jugs, pots, pans and kerosene lamps for battles involving her and such more or less famous snub Pollard, Chester Conklin, Hank Mann, and Elmo Lincoln, the original Tarzan. El Brendel's doing a comeback as the town marshal. Remember him in such comedies as "The Cockeyed World," "Sunny Side Up," and "Just Imagine?"

There's no better kindling with which to start a fire in your home during the Yuletide holidays than a Christmas tree.

This reminder came Wednesday from Charles R. Ross, Oregon State college extension farm forestry specialist, as he adds that each year the holiday season is spoiled for many because of a preventable fire.

Freshly cut trees are less of a fire hazard than dry ones, adding that all are hazards if treated incorrectly. Placing the tree near a stove, heating unit or open fireplace is an invitation to disaster, he said.

To reduce the hazard in a Christmas tree, Ross suggests treating trees with ammonium sulfate which is done by weighing the tree

17 Teamsters Appeal Verdict To Union Board

Seventeen men who were expelled recently from Salem Teamsters union for crossing a picket line at the Salem branch of the Pacific Fruit and Produce company have appealed their case to the joint teamster council in Portland. Ward Graham, Salem Teamster representative, said he was notified of the action by the joint council. The men were expelled because they returned to work at the plant after the union had voted to strike. The men said they felt the strike would not be settled.

Meanwhile picket lines are still around 13 of the Pacific company plants in the state. These include the Salem, Albany and Corvallis plants. The plants have been struck since September 28. Union representatives and company officials have not agreed on a five-day week work clause. Graham said that 10 union members in Klamath Falls also have been expelled for crossing picket lines there. These men were fined \$500 each.

Paint Firm to Occupy Central Salem Store

W. P. Fuller & Company announced through its Portland offices Monday it will establish a retail paint and paper store in the former Sears and Roebuck Farm store building in the 100 block of South Liberty street.

Grabenhorst Brothers, Salem realtors, said Thursday the store will be located in the north half of the building, now occupied entirely by the Stettler Supply company, implement dealers. The Stettler company will occupy the other half of the building. Grabenhorst also disclosed that the entire building will be remodeled by Alan A. Siewert, Salem contractor.

Grabenhorst said the company had signed a lease on the store with Gibson Brothers of Salem.

Elliott to Ask Voting Change

PORTLAND, Dec. 16 (AP)—Robert E. Elliott, northwest regional director of the young republicans, said Wednesday he would ask the state legislature to revise the law on delegates to political conventions.

Elliott, Stassen's campaign manager in Oregon last spring, suggested that delegates to national party conventions be pledged to support the presidential candidate winning the most votes within each delegate's district.

Under the present system, all delegates must support the candidate who carries the state as a whole.

Christmas Trees Are Good Kindling, Forester Warns

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Literary Guidepost

ELIZABETH: CAPTIVE PRINCESS, by Margaret Irwin (Harcourt, Brace; \$3)

Miss Irwin, one of the practically innumerable novelists to find that Elizabeth makes good pickings, began her story with "Young Bess," in which Seymour lost his head for losing his heart to the 15-year-old girl.

Now four years later, it is a matter of dangerous days rather than dangerous nights, for this is more politics than love, and Elizabeth's head is at stake. Her dying brother King Edward sends her an urgent appeal to come bid him an eternal farewell, but as she is about to rush to his side, she changes her mind. Could Edward already be dead, and this be a ruse of Dudley's to get her into his power?

So the willful, sharp-witted miss plays sick, and Jane rules briefly while Marj, warned in time, flees toward the coast, despite her Catholicism to rally the people behind her. Before the crafty Dudley can get his hands on her, Marj gets her hands on him, and Elizabeth pays for one of her frequent fits of temper with imprisonment in the dreaded Tower.

This installment, based on more dramatic material, is a bit less dramatic than the opening number. But Miss Irwin keeps her characters alive at least those whom fate does not kill off, and there is a rough and realistic vitality about their speech.

THE EARLIEST ROADS ABOUT WHICH anything is known were those of ancient Rome.

SHAG RUGS

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and dividing by four to get the weight of ammonium sulfate required. Place the material in a container and add one and one-half pints of water to each pound of

ammonium sulfate used. After it is dissolved, set a freshly cut end of the tree in the solution and allow it to be absorbed, he said. (Farm news on page 12)

David Rizzo, secretary and favorite of Mary, Queen of Scots, was born in Turin, Italy, and came to Scotland in the train of the ambassador of Piedmont.

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Christmas Headquarters



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