

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Men Against the Seas

"Leaving now" remain the last words from the crew of the SS Pennsylvania. Aerial and surface search failed to locate any lifeboats from the stricken vessel, but the spread of debris over the area near where the ship was last reported is taken as proof that it sank. Grave concern is felt over the fate of the crew of 45, several of whom were Oregonians, as the Pennsylvania was one of the fleet operated by States Steamship Company, Vancouver and Portland.

If the crew is lost the sinking will rate as one of the worst disasters in North Pacific waters. It has some parallel with the loss of the SS Iowa off the mouth of the Columbia, which occurred Jan. 12, 1936. It was owned by States Steamship Company too, and its entire complement of 34 men were drowned. The Iowa had crossed the bar when it was caught by a heavy gale and thrown on Peacock Spit in early morning hours. Summoned by a single faint SOS signal from the Iowa's radio the Coast Guard Cutter Onondaga went out over the bar, but when it came in sight of the wreck only its masts and samson posts were showing. There was not a single survivor.

There have been many wrecks along the North Pacific coast. Probably the worst was the sinking of the Brother Jonathan, bound from San Francisco to Portland, on July 30, 1865, off Crescent City. It had a full passenger list and many prominent in Northwest history were among the 155 who were drowned.

A recent book by James A. Gibbs Jr., "Pacific Graveyard," contains the story of shipwreck and disaster off the Columbia's mouth and in adjacent waters. There was the Great Republic which grounded on San Island near the river mouth in 1879 with loss of eleven lives. Forty-two lives were lost when the steamer General Warren grounded on Clatsop Spit in 1852. In 1913 the Rosecrans sank off Peacock Spit with loss of 33.

The Admiral Benson of Pacific Steamship Company got caught in the sands near Peacock Sp. In 1930. Coast Guard lifeboats took off the passengers and part of the crew, the others going ashore by breeches buoy. Like Captain Carlsen on the Flying Enterprise, Captain Graham stayed aboard for four days and nights, finally giving up the ship and coming off on a line made fast between wreck and shore.

Another captain who stayed with his ship was Captain Johnson whose ship, the Laurel, lumber-laden outbound from the Columbia for the East coast, broke in two and wallowed in the seas that broke over Peacock Spit. Passengers and crew were taken off but Johnson stayed on the rear half of the ship for 54 hours. Finally he raised a white flag in signal to the Coast Guard to take him off. When asked why he refused to abandon ship Johnson replied:

"I didn't want to be a hero. I stayed on what was left of the ship to protect its cargo from salvagers. I had hoped that the after section of the ship would be washed on the beach so salvage would be possible, but the bulkheads gave away which prompted me to fly the white flag."

So Captain Carlsen had predecessors among ships' captains reluctant to leave their sinking ships. His bravery with the Flying Enterprise has attracted world attention; but the ominous silence which has attended the disappearance of the crew of the Pennsylvania gives little material for reporters to work on. Hope is by no means gone, but it fades as the hours pass.

MacArthur Likely Appointee as Secretary of State in Event of Sen. Taft's Election

BY Joseph and Stewart Alsop
WASHINGTON—Favorite political parlor game in Washington these days in composing imaginary cabinets for President Robert Alphonso Taft. Under the rules, the theoretical Taft cabinet of the future is chosen by the usual method, from among the leading men who have most valuably supported the Taft forces in the grim pre-election struggle. Some typical results of this new pastime are perhaps worth recording.

For Secretary of State, General of the Army Douglas MacArthur has the lead. No one has played so eminent a role in the Taft pre-convention campaign. No one, seemingly, has contributed more importantly to the mature Taftian theory of foreign relations. As the leading global thinker in the Taft camp, the general has a prescriptive right to this post.

For Secretary of Defense, Col. Robert R. McCormick wins hands down. The self-confessed inventor of the rifle, a noted student of military strategy, and above all, the owner of the crucial Illinois delegation, the colonel looks like a natural.

For Attorney General, Sen. Joseph E. McCarthy is strongly favored. The McCarthy campaign against alleged Communist plotters in the government has greatly strengthened the public support for Taft. As Attorney General, McCarthy will make sure that no subversives

Dewey Not in Grandstand

With all the bugle-blaring that attended the muffled drum announcement of the candidacy of General Eisenhower for President, one name was conspicuously absent from the news, that of Governor Thomas E. Dewey. Dewey was in on none of the rites; yet it was Dewey who in 1950 gave the big initial impetus to the Draft Ike movement. He made the renunciation of presidential ambition for himself and at the same time hailed the general as the man for the republicans to nominate.

What happened in the interval can only be guessed at. There was something of a scramble in setting up the Eisenhower organization. The Dewey people were trying it—Cong. Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, who was GOP chairman on Dewey's choice in 1948, came out to Seattle in Ike's behalf. But Senator Duff of Pennsylvania is anti-Dewey. Apparently he maneuvered with Senator Carlson of Kansas and Lodge of Massachusetts to shoulder Dewey out and control the setup themselves. The pair did the conferring with Ike on his trip home several weeks ago, and seem to have done the talking with him over the moves of last week. Dewey was left with lariat still tied to his saddlehorn.

Politics and time soften political asperities. Ike will need New York, and the Dewey organization across the country is the only one really able to carry on the campaign for delegates at the grassroots level. We may expect the Lodge-Duff-Carlson contingent to invite the active cooperation of Dewey-Brownell-Scott in putting their man over. They had better do it, for the Taft crowd is well braced against another 1940 Willkie stampede.

Detention Camp at Tulelake

The federal Bureau of Prisons is taking over the former relocation center for Japanese at Tulelake, near Klamath Falls, and will prepare it for "detention of subversives if the need arises." This has a sinister sound. It suggests the concentration camps of totalitarian countries. It carries the inference also that the time is "later than we think."

Most people are trying to forget the blunder and minor tragedy of relocating Japanese from the West Coast in the last war, with its great expense to the government and loss and distress to the Japanese and no significant contribution to West Coast security. We dread the prospect of the FBI rounding up droves of alleged subversives and confining them in barracks. We do not anticipate any U. S. resort to gas chambers, but a detention camp is still a place of confinement.

There is nothing in the present outlook differing from the recent past to prompt this move by the federal government. Surely better use for time and money may be found than readying barracks for alleged subversives.

The Astoria schoolboard is having difficulty finding a site for a new high school plant. We're sure they will not put it in the slide area there least it slide off into the Columbia some day.

The Saturday Review of Literature had a cartoon in a recent issue which gave a new twist to the fear of the military mind. It showed one old duffer (circum 1800) who said to another: "Mr. Jefferson? He may be all right but I don't like the idea of a civilian for president."

MacArthur Likely Appointee as Secretary of State in Event of Sen. Taft's Election

enough to convey the general idea of the Taft cabinet game, which is strongly tinged with the customary malice of politics in an election year. Obviously no one really expects Sen. Taft to construct a cabinet of the sort listed, although some of the men mentioned, such as Gen. MacArthur, might well be called to serve under President Taft.

Nonetheless, these imagined lists of Taft cabinet members conceal a point of enduring meaning for the coming election. The truth is that all of the men named above will have most important claims on Sen. Taft if he wins the Presidency. The further truth is that at the moment, these men and others like them are the most conspicuous figures in the Taft camp. And this in turn must constitute a serious dilemma for Sen. Taft.

On the one hand, the Senator does not really agree, so far as the record shows, with all that is said and believed by these eminent supporters of his, even including Gen. MacArthur. He can proclaim his independence of all of them; he can even repudiate some of them, before convention time comes. He will then stand forth as an unusually capable middle-of-the-road leader, particularly with regard to domestic policy, and his great experience and visible integrity will have full value.

On the other hand, it will be immensely hard for Sen. Taft to take this course, of edging away from many of the chief men in his camp. But if he does not do so, it will also be very hard for independent voters, and even for large groups of Republicans, to support a candidate who has been carried to the presidential nomination on this particular group of shoulders. This is, in fact, the biggest single problem that Sen. Taft has to face; and next to Gen. Eisenhower himself, it is also the biggest asset of the Eisenhower movement.

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HOPE FOR THESE AMERICAN PRISONERS



Comes the Dawn

You can tell that Spring is just around the next snowstorm. Because already lots of people are being stricken with severe cases of Spade Fever, better known as Dementia Pea-planting.

This garden variety of Planter's Itch is aggravated this time of year by seed catalogues and propaganda displays of fancy flora, fantastic fauna and new-type garden tools in store windows. Citizens who have behaved themselves all winter suddenly are beginning to talk in a disjointed manner of the good earth, bug repellants and fertilizers.

Grown men will stop you on the street corner these days in a raging snowstorm. With eyes overbright they tell you well, it won't be long now before it's time to get those early peas in the ground. As they stand there in the slush they say they'll soon have to get out in that old garden. While water runs down your and his necks these amateur agriculturists speak eagerly of peas, beans, carrots, radishes and onions. And before they finally take off into the storm they shake your hand with the old Spade Handle Grip. And you know they've had it—again.

These Passionate Planters fall into a variety of classes. First there is the Expert—He knows nearly everything about gardening and can even figure out how much his garden set him back last year. Then there is the Idealist—He outlines big plans for his garden this year (usually in front of your wife), and, what's worse, he'll probably carry them out. We also have the Realist—He frankly admits that his tomatoes will probably not resemble the seed catalogue pictures. The Tinkerer tries every new device, chemical and plan designed to grow bigger and better carrots.

This brings us down to the man who regrets he has but one life to lay down for his family. This man, all too familiar to true-blue spade artists, is the fellow who really would like to grow a dandy garden—and whose wife would really like to watch him grow a dandy garden. But by careful planning and juggling of engagements he usually manages to be fishing, hunting, working, visiting, sick, lame, or off to a funeral when there is sod-turning or pea-planting to be done. He always stands out in a crowd during the Spring of the year because his wife has callouses.

But all in all where can a poor desk-bound citizen get more satisfaction than in gardening? Who can recall with a dry eye the way, during last gardening time, the timid little bean sprouts came peeping up where you thought you had planted rutabages? And what happy hoer can ever forget the thrill of harvesting his first tomato—after months of back-breaking labor, constant watering, plenty of feeding and hours of weeding. What fonder fate, we repeat, can befall a man than to relax on his back stoop of a pleasant summer's eve watching his wife turn the garden soil while his children happily tramp down the lettuce plants.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued From Page One)

invites correspondence with unpretentious gal . . . Another chap, a smarty who hung his vocabulary on the clothes-line, wrote this one out: "Sardonic dilettante, allowing of intermittent intellectual peregrinations, would entertain reciprocal communications from the distaff side, with view towards dichotomous correspondence if mental reapprochement appears plausible . . . (Some one should have thrown a dictionary at his head.) The column was not just a matrimonial exchange by any means. Other sophisticates sought to peddle their wares and services by that medium. Here is a sample: "Poison in his oatmeal will end the problem child but not your problems. We may have the answer in a 6-week personalized course for 8-12 year-olds . . . Come January, 1952 and J. R. Cominsky, treasurer of the magazine company, announced the discontinuance of the personal ads in the Personal column. He ad-

mitted the column had brought fame and profits to the magazine, but with an enlarged circulation the job of policing the advertising was getting harder. The publishers were afraid some ad might lead to a disaster, so to the regret of readers and of the lonely and frustrated the personal ads are no longer accepted. At the same time Mr. Cominsky announced that the weekly with a circulation of over 100,000 was firmly on its feet, and that it was shortening its title to Saturday Review. The magazine is broadening its content beyond the literary field and attracting a wider clientele than "bookish folks and highbrows." In its early years the SRL was subsidized by the Morgan partner, Thomas W. Lamont, but reflecting on the returns from the Personal column Cominsky observed: "The poet Undermyer showed the banker Lamont how to make money."

Quote for the Day

O give me the man who sings at his work! Be his work what it may, he will do more in the same time—he will do it better—he will persevere longer. Thomas Carlyle

Skeletons of an unidentified race of men were unearthed in the Columbus Andes near Bogota by scientists in 1951.

The Safety Valve

WAR AND PEACE AND "GOLDEN AGE"

To The Editor: Two young fellows, the editor and Prof. Haley of Willamette U., have been talking about the Golden Age and when it happened. They are not old enough to know, but Herbert Hoover (the same age as I) is right in declaring it was the twenty-five years preceding World War I. Those who were then adults fondly remember that people were nicer then: better neighbors, less selfish, more kindly, considerate and honest; even some members of congress were honest. Our nation had been at peace with all the world for a third of a century and the country was full of smiles and good will. We liked each other and most of the world liked us, and we enjoyed our rights under the constitution we then had. Then came the war, changing a large number of the young men of that generation into hard-eyed mobsters. It set us back about twenty-five years in human decency, and Hoover organized the department of commerce and showed big biz how to stomp on everybody and get away with it. Then came World War II, bringing another set-back and the recrudescence of J. Edgar Hoover of Palmer raid fame, the enthronement of NAM and militarists as dictators, the building of the Pentagon, the determination to make the USA a warlike nation instead of a peaceful one, the forcing of military instruction into schools and colleges, which, according to Gen. Clay, is not for training but for "indoctrination." Now we have got ourselves another war, and by the time it ends we won't be fit to associate with each other. It is amusing that people are now vacuously talking about hard times and accusing each other. This long-winded screed is aimed at saying that "times" do not change and get hard, but people do—and people make the times. It is strange that they do not realize that war always brings bad times, and peace the opposite. It might in fact, after a long trek back, bring another Golden Age. A. M. Church

John Quincy Adams, sixth president of the United States, was born July 11, 1767, at Braintree, Mass.



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Solons Plan to Put Korea Vets Under GI Bill

By HARRY P. SNYDER
WASHINGTON (AP) - The GI Bill of Rights appears headed for some changes this year as Congress considers proposals to extend its benefits to veterans of the Korean conflict.

Chairman Rankin (D-Miss) of the House Veterans Affairs Committee said Saturday hearings on such legislation will get underway Feb. 6. So far the committee has under study 20 bills on the subject. Their principal theme: Give the Korean war veterans the same treatment accorded the men of World War II. One of the measures—drafted by the American Legion—calls for marked changes, however, in the educational and training provisions of the servicemen's readjustment act. And another along this same line will be introduced soon by Rep. Teague (D-Texas) on behalf of a special committee that has been investigating the Veterans Administration's handling of GI education and training. The Teague committee, which uncovered a host of abuses of the training program, is still analyzing results of its nation-wide inquiry. It wound up hearings late last month. Confident of Action Rankin told reporters he is con-

fidant Congress will act on behalf of the Korean veterans. But he stressed clear of predicting what changes might be made in the act. His committee, he said, will hear testimony from the Veterans Administration, the General Accountant Office, the Bureau of the Budget and four veterans organizations in the opening days of the inquiry. He expects the hearing to last several weeks. Once a measure is agreed upon, it's a good bet little time will be lost in getting it to the House floor. Two new oil refineries have been opened in England, one of them larger than any other in Europe.

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