

The Oregon Statesman

No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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Useless Recriminations

The probe of Pearl Harbor and criticism of General Clark's strategy in Italy take a back seat, as far as surprises are concerned, with Winston Churchill's disclosure that 100,000 British Empire troops surrendered the great naval base of Singapore to less than one-third that many Japanese.

Admittedly, in modern warfare strength doesn't always rest with numbers, and the British strength undoubtedly didn't constitute all first-line soldiers. But it cannot but be wondered what a hulabaloo would have gone up in this country had American troops been similarly defeated.

Churchill himself confessed the episode provided "an endless field of recrimination," but won his point that no investigation be undertaken at the time because of its undoubted impact on the war.

It is not to throw stones to point out that 400 marines held off 10,000 Japanese and an entire task force at Wake island for two weeks, or that the surrenders of Bataan and Corregidor were to overwhelming forces.

No CIO Work in Meat Plants

The refusal of CIO packing house workers to return to work when the department of agriculture takes over the packing plants is understandable. They are on strike for higher wages. The government will pay the same wages which prevailed before the strike.

But with the CIO refusal to work in the packing plants the score is evened up on disregard of government requests. Phil Murray and Walter Reuther have denounced Big Steel and General Motors for scorning the terms of settlement urged by President Truman.

The fact is that government seizure of a struck plant settles no issue. It may, if workers return to work, supply goods or services to the public; but the contention between labor and management remains and it may take a long time to conclude a deal so government can turn the plants back to owners.

A shutdown is apt to spur both parties to quicker settlement. Workers without jobs are eager to get wages. Employers without production to sell are anxious to resume plant operations.

Monroe Sweetland, gone from Oregon for four years, working first in the labor division of WPB, then setting up the CIO organization for raising money for war welfare projects and later with the Red Cross, has come back to the state and purchased the Molalla Pioneer.

Russian papers do as good a job promoting bad relations with this country as the Hearst papers. Tass news agency has been stirring up trouble over American administration in Korea, accusing Americans of poisoning Koreans against the USSR.

In a southern Oregon city a man killed himself by putting the muzzle of a 30-30 under his chin and pulling the trigger. He was considerate, though; he went out to the woodshed to perform the deed instead of messing up the family bathroom.

They put barbed wire on Waikiki beach, made a military base out of Tahiti, told us there were germs in kisses, and now they're bombarding the moon. Is all romance to be atomized?

Statisticians tell us the world has been at peace only 8 per cent of the time in recorded history. As far as we're concerned, it can start on that other 92 per cent right now.

It's all very well for the scientists to say the atomic wave won't be over 5 feet high at a distance of 500 miles—we're still glad we don't live in the Marshall islands.

The chief reason for the close-in slugging at the UNO meeting is that representatives still think first of their national interest and second about world peace.

Style and Constitution

A critic of the structure and phraseology of the United Nations charter writes: "The subordination of precise thought to promiscuous wording has been cited as one of the characteristic symptoms of a disintegrating civilization. . . . This document would not be more difficult reading—it would be far easier for the average man to comprehend—if its language were clean and clear and definite and tough—as is that of our federal constitution."

Democratic Process

"Town Meeting" Thursday night had for its question: "Is there a substitute for strikes?" The discussion ranged all over the lot, and as is generally true, didn't settle anything. Answering one question from the floor, Dr. J. Raymond Walsh, pro-labor economist, said in his view a labor union had the right to strike any time it wanted to for any reason its members desired.

The national park service is going to find out whether Crater lake really burps or not. A geologist has been sent to the lake and a sound-recording device lowered over the rim to be suspended ten feet in the water. It will pick up and report any seismic disturbance which may account for the reported clouds seen three times over the lake by park employes and visitors.

Interpreting The Day's News

By James D. White, Associated Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 25—(AP)—More than 80 years ago the king of Siam had an idea, and it's still paying dividends.

Noting that America had large tropical areas such as Florida, he wrote to President Abraham Lincoln offering a herd of elephants from which we could build up a source of motive power.

Her Spanish mother and Scottish father, both cast off by their families, die early and the girl is brought up by impoverished Mexicans. She proves to have second sight; she can tell you where you lost your money, what is in your pockets or even something about the future.

Siam became a constitutional monarchy in 1932 after a bloodless revolution. But in 1939 an army officer named Luang Pibul Songram set himself up as dictator with strong leanings toward Japan.

The United States ignored it, and a free Siamese delegation remained in Washington. Revolutionists Return

In the summer of 1944, soon after Hideki Tojo fell in Tokyo, Pibul Songram was voted out of power by the cabinet, and the same men who had led the 1932 revolution came back into power.

The Siamese went back to calling their country Siam and looked hopefully toward the peace. There was trouble with China. Certain of Chiang Kai-shek's generals, including Chief of Staff Ho Ying-chin, talked of sending Chinese occupation troops to Siam.

Carefully documented, well illustrated, the book traces railroading in New England from the early 1800's, when some believed they "were of the Devil," to the present when airplanes, the bus and the automobile are bedeviling the railroads for sure.

The Great Pacific Victory, by Gilbert Cant (John Day, \$3.50). Obviously we are still too close to the conflict to get a definitive or even an outstanding history of the war.

Siam returned to Burma territory she had grabbed before the war, agreed to abide by future international agreements on tin and rubber, and promised to turn over her rice surplus to the British.

Now the Siamese have signed a treaty of friendship with the Chinese, and diplomatic relations are to be established for the first time between the two only sovereign nations in east Asia.



A Geographical Problem



(Continued From Page 1)

man earth-bound. We now are toying with forces whose immensity taxes our imagination; the unleashing of wild energies in nuclei of matter, the grasping of rays which leap the chasms of galactic systems.

Sir Isaac Newton, who died in 1727, discoverer of the law of gravitation, said this toward the close of his life: "I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me."

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

THE TURQUOIS, by Anya Seton (Houghton Mifflin, \$2.50). From rags to riches, or how to make use of sex appeal, is the theme of this novel about a girl, named Santa Fe for the city where she was born in 1850.

Her Spanish mother and Scottish father, both cast off by their families, die early and the girl is brought up by impoverished Mexicans. She proves to have second sight; she can tell you where you lost your money, what is in your pockets or even something about the future. This helps here in an affair with a handsome gringo medicine man, with whom she runs off east where she rises to the pinnacle of society.

If you're interested in improbable romance, in a picture of our country unlike what it was, and above all in a seeing-eye girl, you'll dole on this!

STEELWAYS OF NEW ENGLAND, by Alvin F. Barlow (Creative Age Press, \$3.50). This is the first book in an ambitious railroad series that proposes ultimately to tell the story of the United States as it was welded by the singing rails. It is a good, sound start, although it is to be hoped that future volumes will open up the throttle a bit more and carry the general reader faster through the complex financial and other details that at times slow Harlow's book almost to the speed of the first trains.

Carefully documented, well illustrated, the book traces railroading in New England from the early 1800's, when some believed they "were of the Devil," to the present when airplanes, the bus and the automobile are bedeviling the railroads for sure.

The Great Pacific Victory, by Gilbert Cant (John Day, \$3.50). Obviously we are still too close to the conflict to get a definitive or even an outstanding history of the war. In writing this excellent account of the Pacific war since Guadalcanal, Gilbert Cant was even closer to events than we are now. In spite of this he has produced a lively, well-balanced account that does not spare criticism when the author thinks it due. However the very multiplicity of actions in the vast Pacific campaign makes the material difficult to handle, and not infre-

Holy Name Society To Meet at Stayton

The Willamette league of the Holy Name society will hold its bi-monthly meeting at St. Mary's Catholic church, Stayton, Sunday evening, January 27, with President-elect Edward Hammer of Mt. Angel presiding. Representatives from 12 valley parishes will be on hand to discuss regular business and to hear the principal speaker of the evening, Rev. Damian Jentes, OSB. Rev. Mathew Jonas, pastor of St. Mary's parish, will be host to the gathering.

Santiam Snow At Record High

Snow at Santiam Junction summit reached a depth of 118 inches Friday, record for the current winter, R. H. Baldock, state highway engineer, reported. Packed snow was reported throughout the entire Santiam district and chains were advised.

A light snow was falling at Odell Lake with 10 inches of New Snow and a total of 117 inches at the summit.

Other road conditions: Klamath Falls—Packed snow on surface of some roads with sanding operations in progress. Medford—Fog. Astoria—Rain. Columbia river highway closed at east city limits with detour through Tongue Point Naval base. One-way traffic in vicinity of Manzanita.

Baker—Clear. Some ice on pavement. Bend—Seven inches new snow. Road slippery at Lapine. Packed snow on road.

IRRIGATED CROPS TOTALED

Gross crop values of more than \$3,000,000, an average of \$80.62 an acre, were received in 1945 by farmers in the central Oregon irrigation district, near Redmond, Charles E. Stricklin, secretary of the state reclamation commission, was advised Friday by department of interior officials.

quently the reader finds it difficult to distinguish the forest because of the trees. Better maps would have helped. —JW

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



Veterans' Counsellor Tells of Traps Ready to Catch Ex-GIs

Getting the civilian readjusted to the veteran, rather than trying to readjust the veteran, is the big problem facing Oregon today and in the months to come, Carl Freiling of Portland told executives of the local veterans' service committee Friday at their weekly luncheon meeting in the Quella restaurant.

As a member of the advisory committee of the state department of veterans' affairs, Mr. Freiling said he runs across some people who think too much is being done for the veteran. "But we have only reached the starting point in aiding the veteran," Mr. Freiling said, "because only a little more than half of Oregon's veterans have been discharged. When most of them have returned about July 1, then the real job will be facing veterans' aid organizations in solving the ex-serviceman's problems."

The biggest three, he said, are employment, housing and education, and these problems are becoming more serious every day. Mr. Freiling told the local executive committee that rackets and "unethical" deals to get the returning serviceman's money is another problem veterans' groups must help solve.

Many injustices can be remedied if veterans' aid organizations will take concerted action to persuade agencies concerned to change their methods. Cases were cited, one of them involving Portland apartment house owners who evicted tenants because the contract was "broken" when a baby was born to a veteran and his wife. By calling on the association of apartment house owners, Freiling's group was able to show the injustice done by this practice.

One vicious practice still operating there concerns a collection agency which calls on the indebted veteran immediately after his discharge and files suit for debts incurred previous to his service. On top of the debt is piled a fee for court costs and notary and attorney fees, Freiling said. The Portland advisory committee found that the agency is operating within the law, but the practice is "unmoral and unethical," Mr. Freiling declared, and the only way it can be stopped is through coercion and public resentment.

Chairman of the Salem advisory committee's executive body is H. C. "Hub" Saalfeld, Marion county service officer, who presided at the meeting and introduced the speaker.

Mr. Saalfeld submitted a "topical index" of agencies to which a veteran seeking help should be referred, and when complete this index will be used to avoid duplication of work and to keep the veteran from getting the "rundown."

R. C. Shepherd New President Farmers Union

ZENA, Jan. 25—(Special)—One hundred attended the Spring Valley Farmers Union meeting at the Zena school house Jan. 18, with Ralph C. Shepard presiding. Admitted to membership were C. E. Caldwell, James Smart and Kenneth Hunt.

New officers are Ralph C. Shepard, president; T. E. Burns, vice president; S. B. Dodge, secretary-treasurer; Clarence Martin, doorkeeper; Worth Henry, conductor; executive committee members Roy Carr, L. I. Mickey and Fred Muller.

It was proposed to hold a pie social at the February meeting to raise funds for the national education project. Juniors under the supervision of Mrs. L. I. Mickey, presented Russell Hicks, president, in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Alma Krieger, state educational director, had as her topic "Why the Farmers Union has so much to offer rural youth."

A skit, "Peace is the way of life" was presented by Betty Dodge, Fred and Patsy Basting, Leonard Perlich, state president, spoke on the junior program for unity and equality among all people. Viola Perlich gave a piano solo.

Frank Crawford, sr., described the plans for the building of the Farmers Union Livestock cooperative association and called on members to support the project.

Vance McDowell spoke on the Health clinic, and told the cost per person and per family.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. Ralph C. Shepard and Mrs. S. B. Dodge, assisted by Mrs. Walter Kime.

Health Conference Set For Aurora Jan. 29

A child health conference will be held on Tuesday, January 29, at Aurora, conducted by Dr. W. J. Stone of the Marion county department of health. From 9 to 11:30 a.m. infants and pre-school children may have a physical examination, vaccination against small pox and immunization against diphtheria and whooping cough. From 1 to 3 p.m. school children may receive physical examinations and vaccination against small pox and immunization against diphtheria. Routine tuberculosis tests will be offered to all first grade children.

800 Veterans Attend VFW Entertainment

More than 800 veterans from Marion and Polk counties jammed the hall of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Marion post 661, at Church and Hood streets Thursday night for a program of speeches and entertainment sponsored by the local VFW post.

Douglas McKay, master of ceremonies, introduced Lt. Col. George E. Sandy, chief of veterans personnel section of state selective service, the principal speaker of the evening, who spoke on veterans' rights and benefits and organizations.

Other speakers and special guests included Brig. Gen. Raymond Olson, state adjutant general; Col. Carlton Spencer of the U. S. selective service; Hugh Ross, chief of state veterans' affairs; G. O. Pike, state service officer of the VFW; William Baillie, Marion and Polk county director of U. S. employment service, and Aubrey Tussing, representative of the unemployment compensation commission.

S. G. Dempsey of the First National bank and Rex Gibson of the U. S. National bank were on hand to explain the subject of GI loans on real property to the veterans.

Rose-Flower Club Formed At Dallas High

DALLAS, Jan. 25—(Special)—Members of the Dallas high school consisting of 11 girls and one boy, met with Russell T. Daulton, assistant county agent, in the home economics room at the high school Tuesday, and organized the Budding Rose and Flower club as a 4-H club project. They selected the name "Budding" because this is the first time any of the members ever belonged to a flower club and they know they will have to bud before they can become fully blossomed.

The officers elected were Rosella Niebert, president; Connie Power, vice president; and Ruth Anna Nelson, secretary. The other charter members are Irene Frey, Lila Taylor, Beryl Parrish, Irene Wallace, Lorena Quiring, Carol Fawver, Keith Holdorf, Betty Hyatt and Wanda Quiring.

The members selected for local leader Mrs. Madeline Power, Dallas, and Dr. E. W. Benbow, Presbyterian minister, Dallas, as honorary local leader.

Daulton hopes to organize a 4-H Rose and Flower club in West Salem and Independence communities.

SWISS HAVE EARTHQUAKE BERN, Switzerland, Jan. 25—(AP)—Earth tremors toppled scores of chimneys and balconies in Sitten tonight. Police said there was no loss of life. Tremors lasting four to seven seconds were felt in a number of Swiss places at 6:35 p.m. local time, causing wide-spread damage.

Advertisement for Stevens & Son Diamonds, Watches - Jewelry. Includes an image of a diamond ring and text: 'Massive, masculine rings for men. See our complete collection of birthstones, emblem and signet rings. Budget Payments. Stevens & Son, Manufacturing Jewellers, 339 Court.'