

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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The GI Mind A-Wandering

The army the other day announced the results of a poll taken among representative American troops in the occupation zone of Germany, according to which an appreciable percentage of soldiers are falling for what is pretty plainly the Nazi line on how the war started and why Germany lost it.

This is reported at a time when from a good many articles and public statements, it seems fairly clear that nationalist German thinking is by no means stamped out, and when the Hitlerian period itself begins, in one writer's phrase, to be looked on in the Reich as the "good old times."

The fact that American occupation policy is not very successful, either from the German, the American, or the world standpoint, probably contributes to the soldier's receptivity for ideas propagated by the recent enemy.

Yet in the last analysis, whether soldiers in the occupation army begin to accept in some degree the apologies of the Germans is an individual affair, which affects different individuals differently.

When a man is stationed, as most of them are in a German town ruined by bombing, without coal, where the death rate is high and where his own rations are princely in comparison with the most opulent of the natives, only the most determined can fail to sense some feeling of ordinary human sympathy. When in particular a man has learned to know a few Germans, presumably girls, rather well, it is only a step to sharing something of their tainted views. No matter how positively a soldier may feel that Germany needs severe chastisement, it is less easy for him to say that individual Germans known to him should suffer. That may explain the situation, but it is not condonation.

If the ideas for which the American forces fought—the elimination of German tyranny, and the substitution of honest and legal government in Europe and the world—were ever valid, they are still so. Nothing since last May has yet justified the concentration camps or Hitler's brand of real-politik, and closer acquaintance of victor and vanquished should not obscure that fact.

Obviously, the solution is in the sphere of the political warfare experts: They must continue their work of remodeling the German mind so that its innate urges to dominate and destroy are replaced by some sense of the penance which Germany owes the world. Likewise, in the army itself, continual effort must be made to drive home the reasons why the war was fought, and why the troops in Frankfurt and Munich are there and not at home.

There is a story that one of the Nazi leaders in August of 1944 when German armies fell back heading from France remarked that the French women had won again. His analysis may not have given due weight to the Third Army, but it may be applicable in Germany now with the substitution of "frauleins" for "French women."

Rains Finally Cease

The Statesman has regarded the current wave of strikes as it does Oregon's prolonged rains—sure to come to an end sometime. The end appears to be approaching. Ford and Chrysler have come to terms with the auto workers union. The railroads and brotherhoods have agreed to arbitrate. Packinghouse workers are resuming work under the president's takeover order. Remaining unsettled are the steel, General Motors and electrical workers strikes; and threatened are a telephone tie-up and a shipping strike on this coast. The settlements now made pretty well determine the pattern for agreements on the pending or threatened strikes. The worst of these should be out of the way soon, so the road to full production will be made clear.

It is far better to have agreements arrived at through bargaining than through outside interference or compulsion. Usually neither party is fully satisfied with what it gets in the bargaining process; but when the agreement is reached both sides can relax and go to work. With the spirit of settlement in the air, the whole country can relax as far as tension is concerned, and buckle down to the job of building America.

R. B. Taylor, Athena wheat-grower, is one farmer whom the coils of bureaucracy will not hold. He has resigned from the position of state chairman of the state agricultural conservation committee to return to his ranch. As head of the war food production committee for the state, Taylor was very active in heading up the farm program for Oregon during the war years. He assisted in planning crops, and in solving acute problems such as labor for agriculture, feed for farm animals and machinery and supplies for farm operations. His counsel was sound, and his devotion to his duty untiring. Now that the war emergency has passed he is retiring from public duty to private life. He has earned a personal E flag for his service to state and country.

The Bend Bulletin, looking over the early bird lineup at state liquor stores, recommends a return to rationing and concludes its comment: "Humbly we offer the suggestion to the commission." Why the humility, Bob? We newspapers shouldn't clip our freedom by becoming obsequious; or is this commission peculiarly sacrosanct?

Senator Morse is trying to make the republican party liberal, but he will find it pretty hard to make a sow's ear out of a silk purse.

Working for the Government

Criticism has been directed at President Truman over the mediocre quality of his close advisers. His own failures have been attributed to the poor kind of advice he has been getting from his official intimates. This may be true; but the president himself has complained of how hard it is to get men of substance to accept federal positions and how much time he has to devote to inducing men in such offices to remain there. Private life is more of a lure than office-holding right now. There is a break for the gates by civilians in office the same as by men in uniform.

For remedy the president suggests higher pay. That would help with many who find living costs in Washington hard to meet on government salaries, but it would not be a complete cure. Cycles are psychological as well as financial; and just now the emotional swing is away from government service. For the reversal we will have to wait a lapse of time. As conditions become more nearly normal more men and women will turn to government employment for permanent careers, finding satisfaction in that kind of service rather than the greater pecuniary remarks of private business.

Number One Citizen

The Salem Junior Chamber does itself and the community proud in choosing Carl Greider the outstanding junior citizen of 1945.

Greider, one-time popular physical director of the Salem Y.M.C.A., was blinded by a Japanese sniper's bullet on bloody Tinian in 1944. But he has turned his darkened world into the brilliance of a character which makes its own light, and which has been a constant source of inspiration and hope ever since.

The honored insignia of a first lieutenant in the marine corps has been laid aside now. Greider is veterans' counselor in the office of the U. S. Employment service. His work there speaks for itself—and brightly. He has given unstintingly of his time in speaking before organizations all over the valley, in aiding and advising servicemen, in encouraging the hesitant, in a contagious yet unostentatious exhibit of hope and faith and happiness.

Carl Greider, aided by the wife who welcomed him at Oak Knoll hospital when he returned a blinded hero, has earned in full measure the honor accorded him.

The housing shortage catches up with the White House. Congress recaptured an appropriation for \$1,650,000 for an addition to the executive mansion. It would have housed a theatre with a disappearing stage, a cafeteria and more office space. Still there will be plenty of candidates aspiring to become tenants when the present lease expires in 1949.

Senate Annoyed With President

By the World Staff of the Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The senate isn't hiding its annoyance over President Truman's penchant for nominating Missourians for government posts. But it's also a good bet the senate will go along with his nominations—just as it grudgingly went along with President Roosevelt's, which leaned heavily toward New Yorkers.

WASHINGTON—A fish census will be one of the main preliminaries to the atomic tests in the far Pacific this spring. Scientists of the fish and wildlife service will go to the Bikini atoll area six weeks before the first bomb is dropped in May to estimate the fish population. They'll return some time after the second bomb is dropped to make a comparison.

GLASGOW—The British government's emphasis on production for export is causing concern among British golfers who need new clubs. Scottish club manufacturers are returning to large-scale production, but one famous maker said "I doubt if we could supply one club to each professional in the country."

SYDNEY—Motor trade spokesmen say Australians will pay 85 to 93 per cent more for new automobiles than they did before the war. American makes which sold for \$2800 on the pre-war market, for example, will cost about \$5400.

CHUNGKING — Chinese observers predict that Gen. Marshall will find that the difficulties confronting the Chinese in reorganizing their army are even more complex than those which stood in the way of a truce between the national government and the communists. Gen. Marshall will be an adviser to the army reorganization committee.

WASHINGTON — That hydroelectric dam on the Colorado river in Nevada may be in for some more name changing. Started in the administration of President Hoover, it first was referred to as Hoover dam. Then along came Secretary of the Interior Ickes who issued an order that it be known as Boulder dam. Now Representative Case (R-S-D) says he'll introduce legislation to make it Hoover dam.

NEW YORK — James C. Petrillo of the American federation of musicians and a special committee of the national association of broadcasters may get together soon for a discussion—possibly within a month. Chief point would be the number of musicians a radio station should hire. Both sides have indicated a desire for an industry-wide agreement.

PARIS—American correspondents in France soon may be discredited by the U. S. army, public relations officials say. Withdrawal of correspondents' credentials would mean, among other things, loss of access to post exchanges and quartermaster stores, army billets, messes, medical dispensaries, gasoline stations, and use of the army post office.



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Now It's a Matter of Fact-Facing

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

THE ZEBRA DRESS, by Max Shulman (Doubleday; 2).

Asa Hearthrug returns from war to a father who, knowing the boys don't like to talk of their experiences, takes the opportunity to do the talking himself, and to a mother who welcomes him though she realizes there will be no more allotment checks.

Shulman guides Hearthrug on a zany trip through our facile postwar world, which lends itself so wholly to satire, and in one or two places he makes the very most of it. In the utter utter language with which the author describes his hero's love for Lodestone La Toole, in a take-off on Time magazine and in a play written supposedly by Communists, there is, I think, brilliant writing. . . . and Bill Crawford's illustrations match it in vigor.

But it's hard going in between. The author seems to me a combination of grand writer and smart guy. He dashes this stuff off, or so I suspect, and sends the bad stuff off with the good to the printer. Given a blue pencil and a pair of scissors, and even a wastebasket, he could split your sides.

WARD TWENTY, by James Warner Bellah (Doubleday; 2).

This book has a curious history. Last May, it was published by Appleton Century and sent to reviewers. Then they were asked to withhold their reviews temporarily; next they were informed rights had been transferred to Doubleday, which now releases it.

Perhaps the original publisher thought the novel too hot to handle. It deals with the love life of hospitalized soldiers. They may have lost sight, arm or leg, but they haven't lost their appetites. Bellah shows them tackling their t. . . eproblem. He isn't squeamish.

Soldiers who read books may be indignant, and so may many civilians. But after all, this is largely about the sort of soldier who does not read books. As a depiction of vice, it has these virtues: It's raw and vital and powerful, it reads fast, it sounds real on many pages, and it does deal, however frankly, with a problem facing scores of thousands of American citizens and us their relatives and friends.

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 27—Only by three per cent has the cost of living risen in nearly three years said Mr. Truman to congress, in reaching the remarkable conclusion that "the fight against inflation has been waged successfully."

The figure seemed to be a misprint. Most people thought he meant 30 per cent. But careful rereading of his message will show he said the cost of living "index" of the government—the statistics — had crept up but three per cent. In this, of course, he was correct.

The government has waged a much more magnificent fight against letting price statistics rise than against prices. They do this by weighting their index heavily with nonexistent and hard to get commodities. For instance, they may consider nylon hose prices, but few can get them.

Price Figurative
The price is purely figurative.

Practical Religion

—by Rev. John L. Knight, Jr.,
Counselor on Religious Life,
Willamette University.

Even in the modern advanced stage of human progress one finds customs, codes, and laws which defy reason and deny human rights. In many instances obedience to the letter of the law supercedes judgment and morality.

Ideally, law or custom should be judged by its spirit, its basic intent and purpose. As Paul put it: "The law is good, if a man uses it lawfully" (I Tim 1:8).

There is a moral law above all social and civil law. Our construction of law, as well as our interpretation of it and our obedience to it, should be grounded basically upon our consciousness of and regard for the moral order of the universe — God's law.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"This is the end of the army as we knew it. Snodgrass! They're throwing 3 million gross of triplicate memo blanks on the surplus market."

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued From Page 1)

Mainz, Germany about 1456. It contains beside the Old and New Testaments books called the Apocrypha which the Jews did not accept as authentic scriptures. John Wyclif in England made a translation of the Vulgate in English in 1382 so it could be read by the common people. The Protestant Reformation turned many to the task of translating the scriptures into colloquial tongues. Martin Luther's German Bible was completed in 1534, with the Apocrypha placed in a section between the Old and New Testaments. In 1539 the Great Bible was published by the Church of England, the first of the "authorized" versions. The second was the Bishop's Bible, which appeared in 1568. There were numerous other translations of all or parts of the Bible both in England and on the continent, the most valuable of which was the Geneva Bible, translated by the reformers clustered at Geneva and printed in 1560, dedicated to "Queen Elisabeth."

To provide English Catholics with a Bible in their language Gregory Martin began the translation of the Vulgate edition, working in the English college at Rheims, France. Before his work was completed the college was removed to Douai, and the translation finally published in 1610 came to be known as the Douai version. It remains the standard English translation for the Roman Catholic church.

In 1603 King James of England, in response to complaints from clergy, called a conference at Hampton Court "for the hearing and for the determining (of) things pretended to be amiss in the Church." At this conference came a motion to have a new translation of the Bible. Thus was launched the movement for the translation known the world round as the King James version. Six groups of scholars

worked on the task and the version was published in 1611. This was in the "golden age of English literature," when English was being made by Shakespeare and Johnson and Spenser into a great medium of literary expression. The King James version, a product of this period, became woven into the speech and literature of English-speaking peoples from that time forward.

In the 19th century demand arose for a revision of the English Bible. Since the publication of the King James version three older biblical manuscripts had been found, giving earlier and more accurate texts to work from. Students of language, too, had been learning more about Hebrew and Greek so they became able to translate obscure passages more correctly. Finally the familiar speech of the King James version had become archaic in part, and its text was not fully understood. An English revised version was published in 1885. In 1901 the American advisory committee which had assisted in the English revision, published through Thomas Nelson & Sons the American revised version. Though more accurate, and of course more modern in its language, this version has never displaced the King James in popular usage.

Nelson & Sons turned their copyright over to the International Council of Religious Education, in 1930. This body, acting on the advice of theological seminaries, set up a group of 15 scholars, known as the American Standard Bible committee, which has been working since on a revised translation. Individual revisers worked out their particular assignment, the drafts were submitted to other members and then gone over when the section met. In 1943 the manuscript of the entire New Testament was reviewed. This is the revision which will be offered to the public next month. It will be awaited with eager interest by students of the Bible and of literature. If it has the accuracy of modern scholarship and the fluid style which has made the King James version precious, it should attain acceptance by the people and by scholars.

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

Editor's Note: The Statesman acknowledges receipt of additional communications relating to the fire outside the city limits on South Commercial st. They are not published for lack of space.

SCIENCE OR OCCULTISM?
To the Editor:

Two events of the past week have emphasized the tremendous gap that exists between the understanding of nature possessed by the leaders in scientific thought in our country and that possessed by the average citizen. The first event was the dramatic announcement Friday morning that army engineers had made contact with the moon by radar; the second was the unpublicized visit I received from a local phrenologist who calls himself a psychologist and who attempted to convert me to the "truths" of his "science." (I attempted in turn to show him some of the fallacies in his basic assumptions. Neither of us succeeded!)

The first event was the culmination of long years of persistent, exacting and critical experimental scientific investigation into the properties of matter that have borne their fruit not only in radar and the atomic bomb, but in the sulfa drugs, penicillin, streptomycin and many other developments. The second was the expression of occultism, which denies that the rational operation of human intelligence can unlock the secrets of nature, and puts its faith in "revelation" and caprice instead. My visitor was thoroughly convinced of course not only of the "truth" of phrenology, but also of the infallible powers that he possessed of correctly analysing the personality and character of any individual. Yet he demonstrated that he had not the slightest conception of what would constitute scientific proof of his assertions; personal testimony and assertions were all that he could produce. He was entirely unaware that phrenology and other occult methods of fortune-telling are frauds upon a gullible public that is impressed by imposing but vague ideas expressed in semi-scientific jargon. It is of great importance in a

democracy that the people have a sufficient understanding of what is involved in the scientific study of nature, including man, to be able to detect the fallacious reasoning in the fads and cults that abound in the world, and to avoid falling into the hands of quacks and charlatans. It should be a first concern of scientists that the students in our schools learn first of all to draw reasonable conclusions from facts—to separate fallacious ideas from sound ideas. It is also the duty of every citizen to take sufficient interest in his world to be able to form sound opinions on questions involving his welfare.

Cecil R. Monk,
1025 N. Capitol

WHY NOT?

To the Editor:
I see by the paper that there are two parties wanting to buy the courthouse block but it can't be sold unless the sale is approved by the legal voters of Marion county. Real estate is selling fast and at unheard of prices. Why not call a special election and if the legal voters say "yes" then close the deal? Then move the courthouse to the southeast corner of the Bush pasture where there is plenty of shade, plenty of room for Christmas trees and monuments, and those in the basement would not be annoyed by traffic during their sleeping hours. If the legal voters say "yes," why not do it immediately if not sooner?
E. B. Cochran
Salem.

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