

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
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The Register-Guard's policy is to complete and impartial publication in its news pages of all news and statements on news. On this page the editors of The Register-Guard offer their opinions on events of the day and matters of importance to the community and endeavoring to be candid but fair and helpful in the development of constructive community policy.

"BUY A SHARE IN AMERICA!"

There is no sounder slogan in the nationwide campaign to market defense bonds and defense stamps than the appeal: "Buy a share in America!"

The greatest peril to the United States and to freedom today is not Adolf Hitler's armed might but the fairy tale concept of this thing called "government."

To a considerable portion of our populace "government" is all mixed up with the childhood tales of Cinderella's god-mother and Santa Claus. Or to paraphrase:

"The quality of government is not strained. It droppeth as the gentle dew from heaven." (Washington.)

In this cockeyed fantasy, the president is a sort of Wizard of Oz, and the galaxy of congressmen and senators, for better or for worse are the geni around Aladdin's lamp:

"Pass a law! Presto chango! Ah-h-h-h!"

During the last year some 1,000,000 young men have been drafted into the armed forces which guard these United States, and judging by the walls about morale, some of the dear lads find responsibility quite a shock.

Next March 15, some 6,000,000 other men and women—including a great many of those now enjoying the fine war boom—are going to be drafted into the great army of TAXPAYERS, and we anticipate some howls which will make the army sound like a pipsqueak.

Buy a bond! Pay your tax! Buy a share in United States!

Indeed it is high time that every man, woman and child should own a share in the United States, for we have drifted far from those primitive days in which American democracy got its start, when "government" was a handful of settlers in a log hut, each not only speaking but doing his bit!

We see "government" descending from on high, bestowing power dams, war industries, all the blessings of the "more abundant life" and the politicians assure us that if it comes from Washington it's all "free gratis."

This looks like the year of the great American waking up! We're all going to pay, and pay, but we should be very glad—

Because the citizen who "owns a share of America" is going to be in the first line of defense against demagogues and crackpots in the dark days which will follow the end of the war boom; he will know that "government" is not magic, but something which free men build with blood and sweat and bitter sacrifice!

REPEAL OF NEUTRALITY IN ORDER

By its resolution calling for repeal of the farcical neutrality act, the American Legion has performed a timely service. We are not neutral, never have been since the beginning of this World War II, and our neutrality legislation has been only a form of appeasement of the isolationists and the ignorant here at home, and one of the less creditable devices for "buying a war."

However, we are inclined to agree with Senator George of Georgia when he says:

"We are not approaching the subject in a way altogether fair to the people by indicating that a decision on the neutrality act is the supreme issue confronting us. Modification of neutrality can only mean repeal. If we are prepared to take that step, we must make the ULTIMATE DECISION."

You can't fight wars with Gallup polls! The paralysis of American leadership in this crisis is one of the inevitable results of that shabby political theory that the man elected to office must do always the "bidding of the people."

This nation is at war. Sure, you still can't poll a majority who will say they want war. Nobody likes to be shot or to have his friends or kin shot. Who wouldn't like to win this war without firing a shot?

But—about all we the people know about this fracas is what we read in the papers, as good old Will Rogers used to say. Neither President Roosevelt or the alleged leaders of Congress tell us much.

We move toward war by a wierd combination of divination and decree. What we need is some truth telling and a declaration in the constitutional way—by congress!

VERY BAD NEWS FROM RUSSIA

It is in the nature of wars that today you are up and tomorrow you will be down, but if the situation in Russia is as bad as it appears, this war is going to be tougher and tougher—for us—from here on out. It is characteristic of this modern mechanized warfare that when collapse begins it comes with a rush.

Crumbling of Russian defense in the

Ukraine seems to indicate just one thing—supply and support are giving out. Homerich could drag out the defense of Troy for ten years because a man could fight as long as he could lay hands on a sword or a spear or even a good sized rock. The modern warrior is helpless without complete and perfectly timed and coordinated supply and support.

The lunging break-through of the Germans indicates that Russia's war industries behind the lines have been crippled—by the destruction of the great power dams on the Dnieper, by German bombing attacks, by sabotage, by interrupted transport, by any one of the many causes which can wreck a war machine. Men at the front cannot fight without food, clothing, ammunition, motor fuels, motor parts—all arriving at the right time at the right place.

The danger now is a war of exhaustion which will lead to an appeasers' peace, and the real "war to end wars" may be upon us before we have finished paying for the present "AEF" (American Expediency Follies).

GOOD NEWS OR BAD NEWS?

There is room for dispute as to whether it is good news or bad news (if it is more than idle prophecy)—this statement to the Oregon Association of Real Estate Boards at their Gearhart meeting that the population of the Willamette Valley is destined to grow from its present 650,000 to 6,000,000.

The statement was made by one J. Fred Brady, a state representative from Albany. Maybe it's just a politician's viewpoint.

If the population of the Willamette Valley is going to multiply 10 times, the fishing isn't going to be very good on the McKenzie. They'll be laying out subdivisions down in South Slough along side of Old Rosybeak and Ajax McGurk. The picture assumes mills and mill tenements piled one after another all the way from Portland to Cottage Grove, all same Monogahela or Mahoning valleys back of Pittsburgh. What it would mean to Oregon agriculture we hesitate to predict. Irrigation and intensive cultivation make it possible to extract a relatively good living from very small acreage in this valley, but with 6,000,000 population the farmer would be reduced to postage stamp plots.

At the risk of being "crabby" we challenge the whole "fixed idea" that "growth is always a blessing" and that "blessings come with industrial growth."

Take the lure which Bro. Ickes is holding out to the people of the Northwest to put over his "Power Empire." His type of federal ownership of power and his type of federalized management of the region will bring tremendous industries to this area. Some of Portland's bigwigs fairly drool at the prospect of the Rose City as the capital of Ickes empire of power and industry.

It might be observed that the bigger they are the harder the depressions hit. The more congested the population the more severe the problems of what Mr. Roosevelt has called "the more abundant life."

Frankly we would hate to see the time when 6,000,000 people were packed into the Willamette Valley. It might be a good time to move on to Alaska or the South Seas.

Growth there will be because the resources of the Willamette valley are not by any means all developed, but there are reasonable limits on growth. Likewise there are very definite limits on the prosperity which may be expected along with growth. There is a point at which population growth encounters the law of diminishing returns (for most folks).

Because some growth is inevitable and because it may alter many things in this Oregon country, there is here an especial need for careful planning and understanding of what we want. Do we want, for instance, any more big dams cluttering up the McKenzie river—even though such dams might add to power output? Do we want to sacrifice Oregon landscape for some types of industry which stink and smoke and imperil public comfort and health? Do we want to fall down and worship this ugly God Growth?

Governor Sprague looked in the other day. He has survived a busy season of "queen crownings" and appears remarkably fit for his contest with Earl Snell. Anyhow the state is in good shape.

Casualties in the Battle of Russia may set an all-time high, but McGurk says just wait till you see the Rush Week lists.

With Rush Week as with all other fracas it will take a long time to find out "who won the war," but Dad points out that the taxpayer always gets hurt.

It may be that the Greeks had a name for it, but they never saw a Mad Momma vent a pe ve on dear old Boopa Doop.

Speaking of Thanksgiving and Santy Claus, it's only 95 more days, 3 hours and 26.2 minutes till Christmas.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAILBAG

EUGENE — (To the Editor) —

Because so many dealers have changed ownership or policy since 1938, when the first edition of The Lane County Temperance Directory was published, we are now revising it; and expect to have it published this month. So any, who have not listed and wish to do so, should not delay to contact the author at 2011 Lawrence St. Eugene, or phone 1882-R. There is no fee for listing; the author contributing her work and responsibility for the social welfare. It is the Lord's work and we are relying on Him to take care of the financial part. We have asked no financial aid but a few small voluntary checks have been received; for which we are greatly appreciative.

Some are under a false impression that it is the product of the W. C. T. U. The author conceived the idea, did most of the work on the first edition, and all for this revision; and assume all responsibility for it. Though a crippled shut-in and obliged to depend entirely on the phone or writing (of which we can't afford much), listings have been made to date as follows (first number in Eugene, second total for Lane county): bakers 6-6; confectioners, 6-10; dairy 15; drugs 16-18; groceries 71-100; meat 23-24; restaurants 26-31; gas station 33-46. Names are listed only with owner's sanction.

Now for the spat with ye editor: An editorial, to Jason Lee, tried to give a dig at prohibition by saying, "The bootlegger may RE-appear." How can he RE-appear when he has been ubiquitous all the time? Why does Lester Jacob, President of Shenley Distillers, say "National defense is suffering a heavy blow through tax-cheating bootleggers, to the extent of \$1,000,000,000; which sum, used for purchasing defense equipment would pay for 1,000 four-engine bombers, 5,000 pursuit planes, 5 battleships and automatic rifles for 2,000,000 men. There is also an additional loss to State treasuries estimated at \$70,000,000." Why this report from Michigan, Jan. 18, 1941? "The U. S. Government finally caught the largest band of bootleggers ever captured; when they took 35 persons, who in 20 months had cheated the government out of \$2,500,000 taxes by smuggling liquor from Chicago through Detroit to Canada."

Oregon State Liquor Commission reported, since repeal, that "bootleggers are doing 75 per cent of the business." Federal Treasury reports "Out of 39,000 persons convicted for Fed. Law violations, 18,221 were bootleggers."—Frank J. Wilson, Secret Service Chief. U. S. Government reports seizures of illicit stills, in one month, as follows: Boston 22; Newark 24; Phila. 18; Baltimore 190; Cleveland 32; Chicago 73; St. Louis 35; New Orleans 48; Kansas City 82; St. Paul 35; Denver 33; S. F. 11; Seattle 24; a total of 850 in 18 cities. A few bootleggers.

Our nation is the bootleggers paradise. "Congress just voted \$5,000,000 to block foreign rumrunners; and the W.R.A. is asking for \$27,013,000 to build boats to combat them. It is now costing \$632,000 more, per year, to fight bootleggers than the average cost of enforcing prohibition."—Congressman R. L. Doughton's recent report.

Ye editor says "We don't like govt. monopoly because it occurs in countries we least admire—Italy, Germany, Russia and Japan." Why don't you propagandize against war? They promote war; and if you would abolish some things because they favor them why not go all the way? While Hitler's tactics are horrible, we must give him credit for some common sense.

He has built up an army of total abstainers, and few smokers, because; "The number of valuable men—that alcohol has destroyed

amounts, in a century, to many times those lost on the battlefield. And the sum annually spent for drinks would build houses, not only to lighten the housing shortage, but bring happiness to our nation, greater, purer and more beneficial than if spent for liquor."—Adolph Hitler.

On the other hand he is very generous in allowing nothing to interfere with nations he wishes to subdue, having all the liquor possible. Strict orders are given to bombers and submarines, that though homes may be bombed and ships carrying refugee children sunk; breweries, distilleries and ships carrying liquor are not to be molested. Before entering France and other countries agents were sent in to supply the soldiers with liquor; all they could consume. And Hitler is only waiting now for America to become so thoroughly rotten with alcohol that she is ready to collapse, to attack us.

The reason Russia does not become a ready prey is that Stalin has similar ideas about alcohol. LAURA TRACHSEL.

IN SEPTEMBER

When I watch the first bright light of golden dawn Flash from out the gray mists of night, it seems The flickering shadows clearly sketch your laughing face Against the sky, and I can see your eyes, alight with dreams.

When I walk where bright lights glow, and hear the echo ring Of dancing feet beside me, impatient to follow through In search of excitement and adventure, it's so easy to know That dynamic personality at my side, could be only you.

When I stand alone at night, under a moonlit sky And the breeze brings the scent of roses, from over a garden wall The silence around me, breathes your presence, whispers your name

My darling! Why don't you come, in answer to that low call?

This is the month you loved, best of the whole year You said the earth; the sun; the stars; were all more bright and gay

But for me, there is no more sun; no stars, no brightness anywhere You took them all with you, in September — when you went away.

AMY DUTH THOM

THURSTON EVENTS

THURSTON, Sept. 20—(Special)—Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Keeble have left for Corpus Christi, Texas, for a three weeks' vacation with Mrs. Keeble's sisters, Leone Edmiston and Mrs. Carl Hines. The Texas hosts are planning a vacation trip to Oregon in the late fall.

Mrs. Lillie Storke and Mrs. Sadie Storke who are visiting here from Nebraska have gone to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Baugh where they will visit for a time. Dan Baugh celebrated his birthday anniversary Thursday and Sunday the family is planning a basket dinner for him at his home at Thurston. Relatives of Mr. Baugh are invited to the dinner.

Mrs. Zora Culver received an air mail letter this week telling her of the serious illness of Mrs. Mary Danks who is in the Hot Springs

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Cooper Assures China Of Justice

By VIRGIL PINKLEY United Press Staff Correspondent

SINGAPORE, Sept. 20.—(U.P.)—Alfred Duff Cooper, British war cabinet member assigned to the Far East, said today he was "convinced that any arrangements which Washington might work out with Japan would certainly provide full justice for China."

The United States obviously is determined to stop the spread of aggression, he said in an interview, as he left for Batavia, capital of the Dutch East Indies.

Commenting on the Pacific situation, he said Japan was spreading many rumors and much propaganda in an effort to make it appear that the United States favors appeasement.

"This is only wishful thinking," he said. "The independence and

hospital at the present time. Mrs. Danks, an old-time Thurston resident, is well known in this vicinity.

integrity of the Pacific Orient must be maintained."

Cooper said the situation in the Orient was considerably improved, because of the cooperation of the United States, Britain and the Dutch East Indies and the activities of Russia and China.

The strongest impression he gained during his recent visit to the United States was that "all sections of the country including the midwest, are determined and united to crush Hitlerism and eliminate the Nazi forces of aggression and barbarism," he said.

Cooper cited the American Legion's resolution that Western hemispherical limitations be removed from the use of American troops as a reflection of the American attitude.

He said Britain and the Dutch East Indies were prepared to resist an aggression in the Pacific.

"Everyone knows that the fortress of Singapore, which is constantly growing stronger and is the axis for defense of the entire Pacific, backed by American defenses in Hawaii and other mid-Pacific islands, and the defenses of the Dutch East Indies, Australia and New Zealand, makes it possible to resist any military power which might seek to destroy the peace," he said.

"The Bigger They Are..."

DES MOINES, Ia., Sept. 20.—Neil Sommer, 31, started to drive into a driveway and brought into Beverly Hollingsworth, 16. She was unhurt. Sommer fainted and was unconscious when Patrolman Carl Kettella arrived and helped him.

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Prophecy Holds the Answer

Hear

G. T. DICKINSON India lecturer, evangelist

TUES., Sept. 23 Great Sky Invasion Near

WED., Sept. 24 Proof God Inspired the Bible

THUR., Sept. 25 Can We Be Sure Christ Was Divine?

FRI., Sept. 26 Hitler and the Atom

The Hardin Music-Ard Prelude Begins 7:30 Come to the GARDEN TABERNACLE A Bethel of Hope and Truth and Great Prophetic Interpretations All Seats Free Vivid Screen Views