

THE BEND BULLETIN

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MORE PAPER FOR SALVAGE
There has been some talk lately of a falling off in waste paper salvage. This, as everyone knows, is bad for the war effort.

But we started to discuss the OWI's new policy. It began with a decision to stop sending war casualty lists over the leased wires.

Presently the reports of wounded started coming. They are daily. They are for the entire United States. One that we have before us runs 32 sheets of 9 X 13 paper, nice heavy book paper.

Well, we're getting in the neighborhood of 75 times as much as we asked for and there's probably very little that we can do about reducing the size of our mailings from Washington.

WE ARE HOPEFUL
The report from Washington that the navy is considering the use of Camp Abbot as a hospital and recuperation center for seabees encourages the community to hope that this one-time engineer training center will again be put to use.

At the moment, of course, the question of the re-use of Abbot is in the study stage and it will be the wiser course for the community not to place too much confidence in a favorable decision.

Admiral Nimitz has proclaimed himself military governor of Iwo. And soon the last Jap on the island will be crowned.

Others Say ...

THE MASTER KEY

From our too abundant, too variegated planning for the post-war time the master key to all the problems against which we plan is absent.

Of course, everyone knows that the United States cannot balance its budget while the country is the arsenal of a global war.

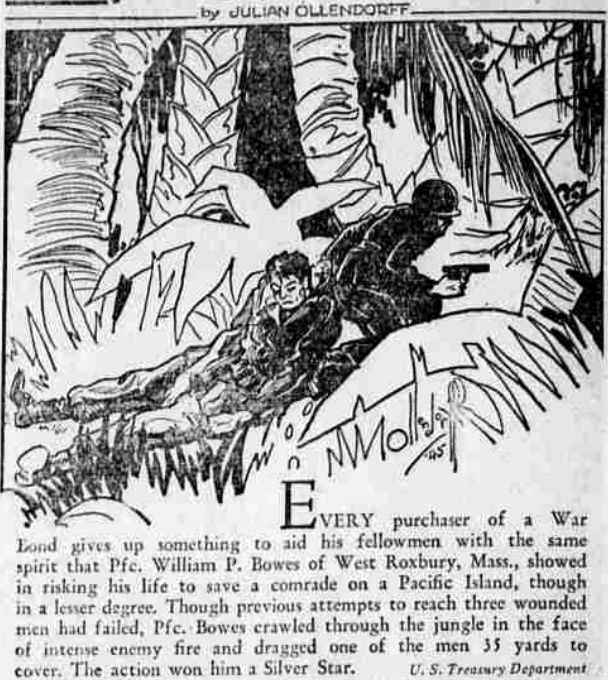
Whereas the truth is that with out a peacetime balanced budget no genuine social objective can be reached or even approached.

Granted that we cannot have budget balance while the war goes on. It does not follow that we must exclude it from our peacetime policies.

THE TUMALO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
The Tumalo irrigation district proposes that a tunnel be bored through the divide and bring water from the Waldo lake on the middle fork of the Willamette river for irrigation purposes in Central Oregon.

Granted that we cannot have budget balance while the war goes on. It does not follow that we must exclude it from our peacetime policies.

AMERICAN HEROES



EVERY purchaser of a War Bond gives up something to aid his fellowmen with the same spirit that Pfc. William P. Bowes of West Roxbury, Mass., showed in risking his life to save a comrade on a Pacific Island...

A SONG TO REMEMBER

by Willard Wiener

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THE MEETING

"Sh—Chopin is playing." Outside the Paris home of the Duchess of Orleans...

Jozef Elsner produced his invitation and was admitted. He left his greatcoat, his hat and his white gloves with a lackey at the door...

Jozef Elsner bowed. He passed on. He took a chair on one side of the room where it was possible if Frederic raised his head, to catch Frederic's eye.

Madame Sand was several chairs away. Her eyes were fixed on Frederic. Jozef Elsner saw her. But his eyes were not for her, they were for Frederic...

Frederic raised his head, a smile on his lips. He looked toward Madame Sand, then as his eyes wandered beyond, he smile suddenly froze, then disappeared entirely.

The piece was finished and was met with vigorous applause. Frederic acknowledged the handclapping. Then he hunted nervously in his pockets for his kerchief to dry his hands and to mop his head.

Elsner stared without applauding. Frederic was about to resume at the piano. He had a sudden change of heart. He looked at the Duchess. His voice faltered.

"Your Grace will pardon me? I shall continue in a moment." He walked from the room which was instantly a-buzz with conversation and started looks.

Jozef Elsner began to follow. Madame Sand, alarmed now, stood in his way.

"That you wish to see Frederic?" "That is why I came, Madame." George smiled to hide her alarm.

"Please—" Then together, with Madame Sand leading, they went into the room into which Frederic had disappeared.

They met at last, face to face. Frederic had nothing to say. He could not look at Jozef Elsner. He tried to shield his face with his arm. He coughed.

George said soothingly: "Monsieur Elsner came to see you." Jozef Elsner stepped nearer.

"Good evening, Frederic." Frederic shrank from him. He moved backward.

"—Tch, tch. You are more ill than I imagined—" Frederic could retreat no farther. His back now was almost against the wall. He tried to straighten up. "Why did you come here tonight?"

"—I came, Frederic—" "You shouldn't. You had no right. George, why did he come?" "Not to quarrel, Frederic. Please believe me—Jozef Elsner's eyes were watering. He removed his spectacles. "And if it wasn't necessary—" He brusquely rubbed the tears away.

Frederic looked helplessly at George.

George said, with mock politeness: "It is so important to Monsieur Elsner, there is no reason to avoid a talk at any time—or any place." Then to Jozef Elsner: "The guests are waiting, Monsieur, so if you will allow me—" She turned sharply to Frederic. "There have been uprisings in Poland, Frederic," she paused.

"Uprisings?" Frederic muttered. He was looking at George. "I am sorry to hear it."

"—You think he is heartless, Professor. He is not heartless. Are you, Frederic?"

"—No, George."

"The fact is, and you would seem to forget it, Monsieur Frederic is removed from the head. Aren't you, Frederic?"

"—Yes, George."

"He is ages removed—ages! You know that, Frederic?"

"—Yes, George."

"His lips responded exactly. Yes George no George yes George yes George yes George yes yes yes. His eyes were glassy. There was no life in his expression. Everything was George. No, George. Yes, George.

Jozef Elsner said nothing. His heart said everything.

George was saying: "Frederic, thank the Professor."

"Frederic's lips moved. "Frederic, thank him!" Frederic stared.

"—Frederic, please! The guests are waiting—" Frederic made another effort. But it was not any good. George took his arm.

"—One thing, Frederic," Jozef Elsner extended his hand. "Mademoiselle Gladkowska!" Elsner said. "You remember her, don't you, Frederic?" Frederic stared.

"She is in Paris, Frederic—to ask for help—for men like Carl and Tytus who are not free. Money will make them free. I promised to bring her an answer."

Frederic stared but it was now a different kind of stare. As though something were trying to fight its way through the blankness.

"—Money!" Elsner shouted. "Just money—could break them free!"

Jozef Elsner went to the door. He stopped. He had almost forgotten the package Mlle. Gladkowska had given him for Frederic. He placed it on a table, then left without another word.

(To Be Continued)

Washington Column

By Peter Edson (NEA Staff Correspondent)

Washington, D. C.—Washington today is the sounding board for more crazily inconsistent home front news than at any time since the start of the war.

Detroit reports 25,000 war plant workers on strike... while war manpower commission reports 167,000 workers needed for critical war production in 1,514 "must" plants.

John L. Lewis asks 10 cents a ton royalty on all coal mined, to build up a financial reserve for his union... as Harold L. Ickes says, 1945 coal production will be 50 million tons short of demand.

War labor board authorizes increase in minimum wages for four million workers to 55 cents an hour (\$22 for a 40-hour week, \$28.60 for a 48-hour week)... as W.L.B. Chairman Davis says this isn't enough to maintain a decent standard of living.

Price Administrator Chester Bowles warns congress of inflation, pointing out that profits of the clothing manufacturers have risen 900 per cent from 24 million dollars a year average in the 1936-9 period to 240 million dollars in 1943... while the garment industry heads in New York protest that new OPA clothing price regulations are "confiscatory."

Bowles further announces that anticipated reductions in clothing prices will help stabilize the cost of living... yet labor union representatives are threatening to withdraw from all participation in war labor board proceedings because they can't get wage increases beyond the Little Steel formula, to attain stabilization.

If the Little Steel formula is to be held in the interests of stabilization, the United Mine Workers can't have a pay increase in their new contract... but if the increases are granted as "fringe demands" not involving change in basic rates of pay, that will be all right... even if it means an increase in the price of coal.

In other words, all the factories to build all the equipment necessary to win the war won't be in production for some months... and the defense plant corporation announces that up to Jan. 31 it had sold 44 million dollars worth of "surplus" war plants and machinery.

What is this anyway? None of it makes sense. Trying to figure it out is enough to send you off into the night, screaming.

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FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



By MERRILL BLOSSER