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"With or without offense to friends or foes I sketch your world exactly as it goes."

Cool, Calculating Courage

There are qualities of cool, calculating courage being demonstrated by the British people and their leaders in a stubborn war against imposing odds that cannot but incite admiration and sympathy from those who pause to analyze the real conditions existing these days in the tight little Isle.

There can be no reasonable condemnation of the British for their refusal to lift the blockade to permit the entry of American relief supplies to France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Poland, Norway and other victims of the Nazi conquerors, when thoughtful consideration is given to what such leniency in the name of mercy might mean to the defenders of the island seat of a far-flung empire.

The British are fighting not only for their lives but for their freedom and liberty, as well as that of their posterity. Hard pressed on every side, there is no room in their defense plans against a ruthless and watchful enemy for sentiment. Their success hinges upon their alertness in capitalizing upon every meagre advantage that falls their way. Any implied moral obligation they may bear to assist their erstwhile allies is overbalanced by consideration of their own safety and advantage.

If by maintaining a tight blockade they can impose upon the Axis powers the necessity of feeding the famine-threatened occupied nations, the British have reduced the striking power of their enemies to that extent. And Hitler can permit the people of the nations he has occupied to starve only at the price of diversion of his fighting strength to subdue riots and insurrection that are sure to follow in the path of hunger.

But the courage of the British people is best evidenced by their seeming indifference to the menace and uncertainty that constantly hangs over their heads. From day to day they live with no knowledge or assurance of what the morrow may bring. Over them constantly hovers the shadow of a fate similar to that which has befallen their allies. They retire at night conscious of the threat of being blasted from their beds; they arise each morning to wonder if this may be the day of promised destruction. Continually they are subject to the torture of a wholesale "third degree" directed and engineered by a master of the psychology of fear.

Deliberately Hitler makes use of this powerful new instrument of warfare—suspense—in hopes of breaking the spirit and morale of the British before launching the great assault. Stolidly his intended victims thumb their noses at the aggressor. So jauntily do the British face the menace that their leaders find cause to rebuke them for their confidence. It is splendid courage that may defeat the powerful Nazi weapon of suspense and expectancy.

What They Object To

In a sort of recapitulation of organized labor's arguments in support of its opposition to the appearance of Ralph Campbell, attorney for the state unemployment compensation commission, before recent gatherings of employers to defend the so-called "merit rating" system of employer contributions D. E. Nickerson, executive secretary of the Oregon State Federation of Labor, challenges the right of Mr. Campbell or anyone else connected with the commission to advocate changes in the law or defend administrative regulations promulgated under it.

Attacking not only Mr. Campbell's utterances before the employer groups, which he was designated by the commission to address, but also his appearances before the last legislature, Nickerson characterizes his activities as improper lobbying, saying:

We hold that state commissions and bureaus are created to administer the various laws dealing with the respective matters placed in the hands of these commissions and bureaus; further, we contend that it is not properly the business of such commissions to lobby for legislation to give them more power or for legislation on controversial points.

Such a contention is entirely foreign to the actual theory of our form of government, which not only recognizes the value and necessity of executive recommendations in the formulation of legislation but specifically imposes upon the executive department the duty of reporting to the legislative branch upon the state of the government, together with recommendations. The compensation commission and all of its employes form a component part of the executive department and speak, within certain limits, with the authority of the governor, whom they represent.

The fact that the commission's position with regards to "merit rating"—opposed by organized labor—coincides with that of the employers and that Campbell spoke with implied official authority to the detriment of labor's efforts to abolish the system, seems to be the cause of the irritation of Nickerson and his associates.

We question very much whether there would have been any criticism of Campbell's remarks, or of his appearance as a representative of the commission, had he spoken in opposition to merit rating.

A Silly Proposal

Senator Wheeler, of Montana, senate leader of opposition to compulsory military training now proposes a referendum vote by the people next November on the question. That would be a very fine thing for Hitler, provided his blitzkrieg against Britain succeeds, and with the British navy in his possession, he strikes suddenly, as is his way, against the undefended and unprepared Americas.

In that case we would get a referendum all right, perhaps next November, along totalitarian lines, just as the Baltic nations have under Russia, and Denmark, Norway and other conquered states have under Hitler. There would be only one ticket on the ballot and those who didn't vote it would get the firing squad or the concentration camp. And the result, as in the dictator ruled lands, would be 95 per cent for Hitler.

A referendum on national defense in these days of sudden undeclared wars is about the silliest suggestion yet made to handicap defense and indicates either a failure to comprehend the gravity of our situation or something far more sinister.

20 Lives Guayaquil, Ecuador, Aug. 13 (AP)—Twenty persons were believed to have been burned to death or here from Puerto Bolivar, Ecuador,

Recollections

By Beck

THE ACID TEST OF TRUE LOVE, WAS ROWING FOR MILES TO A PICTURESQUE SPOT FOR A BASKET LUNCH WITH YOUR SWEETIE AND HER KID BROTHER AS CHAPERON.



Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

Following our disclosure last evening of the melon snatching proclivities of Grant Boyer when he was a youth, it seems we are in for a deluge of Grant Boyer stories such as used to shroud the Ford car and Mae West, but probably along little different lines. For instance, no sooner had our column hit the street, wet feet and all yesterday, than we were phoned by a party who recounted an incident that occurred at the Mt. Angel flax festival Saturday evening. Grant was towing his old friend Frank Wrightman around the Mt. Angel thoroughfares now and then introducing him to an old timer.

Grant and Frank have been friends and associates for 30 or 40 years. As they approached one elderly gentleman Grant remarked to the approacher "I want you to meet a friend of mine," and turned to Frank. "This is my old friend Frank," he said and began to stutter. "Frank, Frank—" "Smith," said Wrightman in a helpful mood. "O yes," said Grant. "This is my old friend Frank Smith," and the incident closed happily. Which one of the Smith brothers Frank is supposed to be we didn't find out.

Chilly weather early this a.m. at an hour when most of the bank clerks and such like are sleeping in but when us busy professional men have to rouse ourselves out for a heavy day of toil. Fall was sure in the air early today and no fooling. Smelled like hop picking weather with the state fair in the offing, and dogged if it isn't.

Bill Bechtel, the well known fireman, has a what is it at the fire department he'd like to have some professional botanist identify. It was salvaged by a street sweeper who turned it over to Bill for scientific purposes. Same looks like a clam shell with a defunct clam inside of same. However, a whiff disabuses the mind of the clam theory and a set of whiskers of which any Whiskerino could be proud. Seemingly it's a seed pod of some kind but what kind none of the scientists who have examined the same is willing to opine. Seed pod experts will find something interesting if they call on Bill.

Happy Ending

(Canyon City News)

Residents of Canyon City had a grandstand seat at the spectacular grass fire that swept the deep hollow containing the golf links in the hills east of town Saturday night. The fire was in a great cauldron throwing a brilliant light high in the air on clouds and smoke. Flames leaped high from clumps of dry brush. No damage was done.

George Belt, who two years ago vowed he'd never shave his mustache off until our column let up on him, has shaved same for second time since such declaration. Which serves to show our memory is longer than George's mustache ever became.

And as an afterthought, the chilly morning also indicated the state softball tournament is nigh, and dogged if we're not right again.

Anderson Directs School at Keizer

Keizer — N. O. Anderson, who formerly taught at Aurora, has been elected principal of the local school. Mrs. Laura B. Miles, who has taught at Hazel Green during the past several years has been elected as a member of the school faculty. Other members re-elected are Mrs. Bernice Faley Catron, Miss Gretchen Gerner, Miss La Vaun Gardner, Miss Elizabeth Beers, and Miss Rose Marie Kronberg. The new school building is expected to be ready for occupancy in time for the opening of school on September 16.

Kelly Says:

Signs Point to Idaho for Willkie

Pope Hard Worker But Not Popular

Third Term Still Scares Them Away

By John W. Kelly

Boise, Ida., Aug. 13—If Oregon's Charley McNary does not carry Idaho as a republican nominee for vice-president then the signs are all haywire and many people do not know what they are talking about. It is natural that McNary would be a strong asset to the republican ticket in a state neighbor to his own, and the senator's long championship of reclamation and trigulation, two very essential matters in the Gem state, assures popularity, but there are other factors entering into the picture that point to the Willkie-McNary ticket sweeping the state.

In Idaho there is bitter resentment against Mr. Roosevelt seeking a third term and violating a tradition that is as old as the United States. As one erstwhile supporter of Mr. Roosevelt observed: "If the people elect Roosevelt a third time it will be the last time they will have a chance to vote for a president." There is significance in that statement.

It is admitted that Jim Pope, new deal senator who was defeated after one term, "got us everything we wanted," but Pope was personally unpopular despite his bringing home the bacon. One of the last things Pope did as a senator for Idaho was to pave the way for a reclamation district near Boise. It is estimated to cost \$35,000,000 and has been reported as feasible by three government agencies. Congress appropriated \$25,000 to start the work. Within the past ten days the president ordered the treasury to withhold this money and instead of making it available to initiate the project, to keep it handy to be used for national defense. Boise people do not like that.

Borah Made Publicity

As for the late Senator Borah, the Idaho speakers say he never did anything for the state—preferred to be an international statesman, and they kept him in office as an advertisement for the state. Pope was ousted despite his success in getting the things which Borah had ignored. The old line republicans hope that John Thomas will be elected to the senate. He is filling the unexpired term of Borah under appointment. Thomas also filled the unexpired term of the late Senator Gooding and is therefore experienced in Washington ways and in position to handle things accomplished, but he has never been elected by the people. A flock of aspirants are out for the job. The principle handicap of Thomas is that he is not a speechmaker, and that appears to be an important item in the opinion of people who do not comprehend how results are accomplished in the national capital.

Reverting to the third term sentiment, the statement has been made repeatedly by old time democrats that they are breaking away from the new deal ticket for this reason alone. There is something sacred about that tradition, and they are bolting their party because of Mr. Roosevelt's desire for 12 years in the White House. Personally, Mr. Roosevelt is liked and admired but despite the money Idaho has received under the new deal the third term gags them; it is more than they can take, they say.

Sugar Against Wallace

Henry Wallace, running mate for Mr. Roosevelt, is not overly popular in Idaho because of his policy toward sugar quotas and his attitude with respect to sugar beets. Idaho would like to expand its sugar beet acreage and restrictions Wallace, as secretary of agriculture, last year imposed on beet growers were unsatisfactory. The people feel that he has not given the sugar beet industry a break and has favored importation of sugar, especially from Cuba where plantations are owned and controlled by New York banks.

On the other hand, the activity and support of McNary in developing the semi-arid lands of Idaho, the reclamation projects, his interest in highways and forest legislation are common knowledge. There is also the pride in having a resident of the far west honored by nomination on the presidential ticket of a major political party. In Idaho it is expected that the Oregon senator knows and understands the problems of the west better than any other candidate on the two party tickets. With Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Wallace and Mr. Willkie the west's problems are hearsay or second-hand information, but McNary understands from having lived on the ground and by association for a lifetime with the far west itself, as he is a native son of the region.

State in the Bag

As Jim Farley might say, Idaho is in the bag for the Willkie-McNary ticket and at this writing there is nothing in sight which is likely to switch it to the new deal column—not even developments in Europe, which it is admitted in some states would materially aid the cause of Mr. Roosevelt. Idaho isn't "hot" for the selective draft, as young men eligible for conscription say that while they are willing to fight for the flag when necessary, they do not want to go into military training for a year and lose the jobs they are now filling.

Summer Religious School Term Closes

St. Louis—Seventeen children were in attendance at the religious summer school conducted here for the past two weeks by Sisters Catherine

and Augusta, OSB, of Mt. Angel. The school ended with mass and benediction of the most blessed sacrament Saturday morning. First holy communion was given Sunday at the 8 o'clock mass to Barbara Jean Kirkwood, Virgil Kergill and Patrick Mahoney.

Aurora—Cecil and Leland Armstrong, twin sons of the Robert Armstrongs, and members of the national guard, are stationed at Camp Murray in Washington, where they will be in training for three weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong visited their sons last week-end.

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COUPON

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COUPON

Salem Sketches by Will Danch



"You folks'll have to get a well-informed person like Tad Shelton to answer your questions! My sirl just said she'd marry me!"

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