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Speaking of Umbrellas

Joining the ranks of the typewriter strategists on things military, the Oregonian calls editorially for an umbrella of defense planes over Singapore and declares "this talk of inability to get planes there is just flappadoodle," and continues:

"In the old days the commercial air lines operated between London and Singapore in four days. They may be operating on that schedule still, for all we know. In any case, those who make time an excuse are thinking of the covered wagon. If Singapore and the armies defending the lower end of the Malayan peninsula are left without a proper aerial umbrella, it will be a deliberate decision, not a necessity."

All of that is pretty said, but not entirely accurate. The commercial planes which were making the flight from London to Singapore in four days before the war were long range transports corresponding to bombers. They flew over direct routes and were served by fixed way-stations, unharassed by enemy raiders. The ships needed for the "umbrella" over Singapore right now are not bombers, but fighters—speedy but short-range wasps of the sky to fight off Jap raiders.

These are not so readily transported half way around the earth under their own power, over circuitous routes with refueling fields few and far between.

For planes of the type most needed in Singapore right now England is many days distant and vice versa, while London is only a few hours away from the German invasion fields and ports. That fact Hitler may well have had in mind when he set the stage for a new war front in the far east. Anything which weakens the defenses of England at home enhances the chances of an axis victory.

Let us not forget that there are dark storm clouds hovering low over other portions of the world than Malaya and, until Uncle Sam gets sufficiently busy to supply them, not enough umbrellas to go around. General MacArthur could use a few right now in the Philippines.

War Profiteering

The house naval affairs committee majority, reporting on an investigation of the gigantic naval building program recommends enactment of legislation to stamp out profiteering, accusing both industry and labor of attempting to get-rich-quick with defense contracts.

Profits of shipbuilders, the report finds "excessive and unconscionable," many "50 per cent or more" and an "astounding concentration of wealth" in labor unions, with 117 unions reporting assets of \$82,594,959, an increase in 18 months of \$10,679,294. Recommendations include:

For industry—"that some method of profit limitation should be adopted to eliminate profiteering on defense contracts . . . to prevent excessive and unconscionable profits. Such measures are owed to the public which bears the enormous tax burden of defense costs."

For labor unions—"that suitable legislation be enacted requiring all labor unions to register with a suitable government agency and to furnish pertinent information concerning their officers, members and financial condition at periodic intervals." It recommended passage of a law to curb strikes which the committee blamed for delay in two-ocean navy construction.

Existing income and excess profits taxes, plus those to be imposed in the new revenue bill will probably strip the industrial profiteers of their excessive profits, but as long as labor organizations are exempt from taxation, and labor bosses irresponsible to their memberships, there is no way of checking profiteering except by passage of control legislation, and those wanting work in defense projects will continue to have to pay a large percentage of their earnings for the privilege.

Another Pension Raid

While the attention of the country has been concentrated on defense and war, the senate finance sub-committee has reported out without recommendation two house bills passed last summer which would saddle at least a \$15 billion pension plan for World War veterans and their relations on the country.

Neither of these bills is concerned with relief for veterans actually disabled in the line of duty. One in the pretense of increasing the pensions of disabled veterans from \$30 to \$40 monthly, really provides \$40 monthly for every veteran, no matter how healthy, upon reaching the age of 65, providing only that his annual income is less than \$1,000 if single or \$2500 if married. The total cost will be \$5 to \$10 billion.

The other bill provides pensions up to \$56 a month for dependent widows, children, mothers and fathers of deceased veterans. Under it a young woman married as recently as May 12, 1938, to a veteran and who had a child would be entitled upon his death to a pension the rest of her life, and her children also. The cost would be from \$15 to \$30 billion.

With the nation facing the tremendous burden of paying for a world war and its finances strained to the limit, there is no excuse for such a raid on the treasury. The senate committee should have pigeon-holed these or reported adversely, for if passed, the president will have to veto them as unnecessary and unjustifiable expenditures.

No Place for Wastrels

Proposals to modify tire rationing regulations to allow trucks to get replacements more readily will meet with indignant public protests until the truckers institute drastic reforms to put their economic house in order. The same reaction will result from any attempt to favor truck operations in any rationing of retreads.

The public will support and cooperate in tire rationing only so long as it is administered to the end that effective rubber conservation for war needs is attained.

It will not save and sacrifice to provide rubber to be wasted.

It will not subscribe to a program which permits this essential material to be squandered on duplicated service performed by duplicate vehicles travelling largely the same routes.

The public will insist, and the government should order, a complete reorganization of the trucking industry from door-to-door deliveries to long distance hauling between fixed termini to eliminate all waste through duplicated service or inefficient operation, with special emphasis placed on overloading and speeding.

There is no place in our all-out war effort for wastrels or wasteful methods.

A Dog's Life

By Beck



Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

Getting about time for the Cherrians to begin appointing committees to select a Blossom day date.

Sure, Paul Marnach comes into town today with a sprig of pussy willow he picked up over Silverton way. He said the tree had been laid across the road by the late unpleasantness and the little pussies were fully clothed as indicated by the sprigs brought in. Then came Bert Smith with one to the effect he was cleaning up a flowering quince bush the other day and found it had been in full bud already to burst forth when attacked by a glacier. So it begins to look as though its about high time for the Cherrians to begin considering Blossom day—or maybe they'd better wait on the ground hog.

Who should we run into on the streets this a.m. but our old friend, John Foley, headed up to the dentist's office to get his clackers, which will make him a full, complete and outstanding member of our PT & C.

Youth's Part in Defense Stated

Seattle, Jan. 21—Participation of youth in civilian defense was emphasized with the release today by the division of youth activities, office of civilian defense, of a bulletin which describes opportunities for participation by young people's groups.

"Youth's stake in this war is perhaps greater than adults, because youth faces more years in a world to be dominated by totalitarianism and terror of Christian democracy," said Horace Hahn, regional advisor of youth activities for the western states. "That is why youth wants to help in this total war effort and why the bulletin was prepared, explaining how and where they can contribute."

The bulletin describes organization of a "youth defense auxiliary," to work under the direction of local defense councils, assisted by a young member of local defense councils and the regional advisor in charge of young people's activities. Youth defense auxiliaries will be comprised of official representatives of non-political youth groups with members between the ages of 16 and 25 years old.

A detailed outline of possible defense activities for youth groups includes suggestions for both civilian protection and community service.

Copies of the bulletin issued at Washington will be available to state defense councils in the near future.

BA. John was carrying a file and a couple of nail punches in his hand. We didn't have time to ask whether he intended using these on his dentist or whether he figured he might need them to make his clackers fit. Besides, the file was a long, sharp pointed one and we figured he wasn't in any mood to be questioned too closely on such personal affairs and we passed it up for the nonce—as it were.

Night Life at Weston

(Weston Leader)

"Frank Price went out 'en dish-able' into the chilly night to consult his thermometer and see how cold it was, and soon found out without mercurial aid. He had absent-mindedly closed the door and found himself automatically locked out. He previously had turned on the radio, and his better half (or so he says) could not hear his almost fearful pleas for admittance. Local theory has it that outside is exactly where she wanted him to be. In due course, however, his beseeching tones prevailed, and he went back to bed a colder and a wiser man."

Roy Puzate, district agent for the predatory animal control, has just advised in his latest quarterly report that hereafter, to conserve paper, he'll issue the reports only twice a year instead of every three months. Here is an example that might be followed from his more or less humble office way up through the governmental alphabet and back down again through state offices, bureaus, functions, commissions, boards, agents, servants, and what have you. The way paper could be conserved would be something bewildering to see just by putting the printing hooks to reports if in no other way.

Stayton Board Certifies Tires

In addition to the list of persons and concerns whose application for tire purchases were approved by the Stayton tire rationing board, the board at Stayton has approved applications of the following nine who may receive their certificates by applying to H. J. Rowe, chairman; Mack Hamby, Jefferson; Tony Steinecamp and Clarence Goffin, Aumsville; W. A. Rankin, Turner; Byron B. Shuck, Paul Lambrecht, George Neilling, Fred Perry and H. A. Baysinger, all of Stayton.

Inspectors authorized in the Stayton district are Claud Lewis and George Schiles, Stayton; Roy Phillippi, Mehama; Roy McKee, Jefferson; O. E. Roberts, Aumsville; J. H. Wolf and Theo Minden, Jr., Sublimity.

Kelly Says:

Northwest Mayors Didn't Applaud Speech

Delegate From Alaska Fearful of Attack

Douglas Selection Halted for Nelson

By John W. Kelly

Washington, Jan. 21 — Mayors from the Pacific coast (Portland, Tacoma, Seattle) blinked their eyes when they heard Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, standing before a loud-speaker, declare that the west coast will have to wait before there is a navy to defend that section of the United States. The secretary declared to the 200-odd mayors assembled from all parts of the country that the No. 1 enemy is Herr Schickelgruber; that Hitler must be disposed of first—that it will require a long time, and until that is accomplished the Pacific coast people must wait.

To a major part of the mayors, coming from the Atlantic, southern and mid-west states, came applause; but none from the west coast officials. The country that the United States is at grips with, the active enemy that has given the United States reversals, is Japan and not Germany. The western mayors had a different view of the picture than Secretary Knox. As they expressed themselves after the Knox talk, they recognize that the Pacific fleet has been severely crippled by the Pearl Harbor disaster and that a substantial part of the navy is in Atlantic waters, and that time is required for the building of new cruisers, destroyers and submarines; but they did not appreciate the secretary's statement that the west coast must muddle along until after Herr Hitler had been disposed of.

Remembers Pearl Harbor
Anthony J. Dimond, delegate for Alaska, says he is fearful that a repetition of what happened at Pearl Harbor may occur in Alaska and that to all parts of Alaska on the west may be a duplication of the situation at Wake and Manila. The war department treats the territory as an outlying possession and recently the wives and children of all men in the military and naval services were ordered from Alaska to the states, with steamships practically taken over by war and navy departments to get them out. Steamers plying to Alaska have had to increase their freight and passenger rates 45 per cent because of the high cost of war insurance.

Already, says Delegate Dimond, the government has appropriated \$140,000,000 for five air bases and a submarine base; the naval bases are at Sitka, Kodiak and Dutch Harbor. The late General Billy Mitchell, testifying before the military affairs committee in 1935, declared that whoever holds Alaska will hold the world, as he regarded it as the most strategic place in the world. From Dutch Harbor to Tokyo is 2500 miles but only 1730 miles from Attu, the last available place for a take-off for Japan; but Attu is only 835 miles from Japanese territory where there is a substantial naval and air base.

Subs on Great Circle
It is assumed that the Japanese submarines which have been operating off the coasts of Washington and Oregon and near Kodiak Island came from the Japanese island of Paramushiru, where the naval and air bases are located, following the great circle route, the traditional and shortest from Columbia river and Puget sound to the orient.

Just as a letter-writing campaign was under way promoting Associate Justice William O. Douglas, formerly of Walla Walla and La Grande, to be the one man to mobilize America's resources and manpower, President Roosevelt stopped it in its tracks by naming Donald Nelson to have complete charge of production for war. By selecting Nelson the president also ended criticism due to the fact that neither OPM, SPAB or any other agency had authority. From Bernard Baruch, who was head of the war in-

dustries board in the first world war, down to understrappers there was insistence that someone should be vested with power to have things done. Wendell Willkie, a strong supporter of the president, had sent out advance copies of a speech in which he protested the absence of anyone with authority. An hour before the speech was to be delivered the president announced Nelson's new job and Willkie had to delete a large portion of his prepared address.

Britishers Advised FDR
The two men who caused the president to make this decision were Winston Churchill, British prime minister, and Lord Beaverbrook, minister of supply. In their days at the White House these visitors stressed the importance of establishing a responsible head. Churchill declared a war cannot be won by commissions, and Beaverbrook outlined to the president what the job requires. Selection of Nelson is the first step in the organization of a super supply service which will work in close agreement with Beaverbrook and he is reportedly slated to be the head man of this international group inasmuch as the United States has the role of providing most of the airplanes, tanks, guns, ships and ammunition. It will be Nelson who will tell the various industries what he wants them to produce and see that production is made; he will designate priorities and allotments—he will be "the boss."

Novelties In the News

(By the Associated Press)

Utmost Precaution

Williamsport, Pa.—J. Stanley Livermore, 61, given a department store's \$500 payroll by mistake, trudged two miles in bitterly cold weather to return it, although the store has messengers and he has a telephone.

"I have a party line, and I want the information kept confidential."

Patriotic Reward

Eaton, O.—Somewhere in this Probable county seat of more than 3300 population is a "17-year-old frizzly poodle" worth a \$25 defense bond.

Mias Ione Somers, cream station operator, offered the bond as a reward to the finder of her lost pet.

Shucks, What's \$4,000?

Los Angeles—Karl Holton turned down the \$10,000 job as commissioner of the California youth authority until officials fixed it so he could keep his job as county probation officer, too.

But he refused to accept any part of the \$10,000. He already gets \$6,000 a year as probation officer.

Army vs. Navy

Vashon, Wash.—Mr. and Mrs. George J. Smith swelled with pride when son John won an appointment to Annapolis.

They were proud again when son George was chosen for West Point. John and George are twins.

She Waited

Camp Haan, Calif.—Pvt. Morry Berliner finally got around to taking care of that unfinished business.

He was married last week-end—much to the relief of the Los Angeles folks who've been toting wedding invitations since last summer. First, he was drafted. Transferred here, he thought he could make it, but Christmas and New Year's alerts caused cancellation of passes.

Wanted: Disguises

Milwaukee—Sheriff Joseph J. Shinnors of Milwaukee county complained that somebody photographed a department official group picture of his deputy sheriffs and sold copies to operators of houses of ill fame and others. The photographs, he said, made it difficult for the deputies to procure evidence because they were recognized.

Salem Sketches By Will Danch



East Salem Defense Jobs Are Changed

East Salem, Jan. 21—Defense jobs are changing the work of many men in the East Salem district each week, bringing some changes. This week Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Cozad of Swegle district are moving to Seattle where Mr. Cozad is now employed. Lametta, Bobby and Marilyn will be leaving Swegle school. Isaac Pauls has new work in the shipyards at Portland but the family plans to stay at their home in route 6 for the present.

George Standley has work as a welder in Seattle. William Benner and Roy Blanchard, all Swegle district men, have work at Astoria.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Dalley moved this past week from the Zosel property in Garden Road to the Keizer district. Their daughter, Jeanne, was an eighth grade pupil at Swegle. The pupils at Swegle gave a farewell party for Jeanne in the Sunday school room at the school. The children also celebrated Principal Ralph Nelson's birthday with a party in the morning of the same day.

Absent from Swegle school Monday with the mumps were Charles Burt and Thomas Dickey, and those having them during the vacation week of the storm were Alice, Kathleen and Virgil Miller, William Ames and Lametta Cozad. Adults having them are William Koelman of route 6, Mrs. V. M. LaDue of Hollywood Drive and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Holler of Sunnyview avenue. Some have been quite ill with them. Eleanor Smith is out of school with the flu.

Mrs. Henry Lanner of route 6 is spending two weeks with friends at the coast.

Darrell Howe Dies in Battle

Darrell Howe, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Howe, lost his life when he went down with his ship in the attack by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor December 7. Word of their youngest son's death has been received from the navy by his parents, formerly living in Salem, but now of Sweet Home.

Darrell was usually known to his friends as "Dude" Howe. Before joining the navy he attended Leslie Junior high school and was popular among those who knew him. For a year he served as a cook in the CCC and enlisted in the navy in the summer of 1941.

He is survived by his parents; a brother living at home, and two married sisters living at Toledo, Ore.

Defense Council Job For James D. Olson

Appointment of James D. Olson, Portland, as assistant coordinator of the Oregon state defense council was announced today by Governor Charles A. Sprague. For the last month Olson has assisted Jerrold Owen, state coordinator.

Olson has served for several years as director of information for the Oregon state game commission, which has granted him an indefinite leave of absence in order that he might devote his entire time to defense work.

He is a veteran newspaperman, having held reporter posts on the Portland Journal as well as newspapers in California.

Lincoln—Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Edwards, whose only son, Private Kenneth Edwards, has been stationed at Fort Warren, Wyo., report that they have received word that he has been transferred to California.

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