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Make Up Your Mind, Please

If ever a statement was framed to alarm the public as to the future supply of sugar and stampede the people into hoarding that essential war commodity, it was that credited yesterday to Leon Henderson urging housewives to sell any excess sugar they have on hand to their neighbors or to their grocers for resale.

Grocers who buy such sugar are advised to pay current retail quotations and sell it to other consumers at the same price as a patriotic service.

Only a few days ago in outlining proposed rationing rules the government announced that housewives having a sugar reserve of more than two pounds a person at the time of taking out their rationing cards will be required to declare the amount of excess, and will not be permitted to buy more until their excess supply is depleted.

That would be a reasonable and sensible regulation and would destroy any incentive for hoarding, without alarming the people with hints of a possible sugar famine in the future, which is more than can be said of Henderson's latest suggestion. There is nothing in figures revealed so far on stocks on hand, anticipated production and estimated military needs to justify such scare talk.

Housewives can just as effectively "share their sugar," as Henderson proposes, by shortening their daily rations and refraining from buying more until their reserve is exhausted as by selling off their reserves and then buying more. Besides, if every other housewife is to become a sugar merchant, how is rationing to be controlled? So long as commercial sugar users are allowed as much as 80 per cent of their normal supplies, housewives are not going to be impressed with the need for stinting themselves.

The WPB would do well to convince itself of the real need for drastic sugar conservation before it undertakes to convince others.

With a Sigh of Relief

Resignation of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt as co-director of the office of civilian defense will be hailed with a sigh of relief. The Lady Eleanor is a perpetual motion machine committed to the starry-eyed uplift and wishful thinking. Her heart bleeds for the comparatively few under-privileged for whom she believes in bleeding the many.

As a cure for social ills, she believes in doles, boondoggling and a hundred other costly devices sapping the initiative and resourcefulness of the people, in a paternalism that destroys individuality, independence and industry to make the inefficient and lazy wards of the state with the ambition to get something for nothing at taxpayers' expense, to promote the creeping paralysis of state socialism.

Mrs. Roosevelt has left her mark on the New Deal vagaries, has aided materially in creating a mushroom bureaucracy intent mainly on perpetuating its powers and making depression emergency measures a permanent feature of American life. She has catered to communists, pinks and reds and placed many of them on the federal payroll.

Much of the first lady's ebullience has been spent on experimental flops. She has championed the various fellow traveler organizations designed to build up communism, some of which she has been openly affiliated with. She has encouraged sit-down strikes and labor racketeers and it is her influence that has kept Madame Perkins as secretary of labor, and believes in sacrosanctity of picket lines, even when they surround the White House to keep us out of war—at least she never protested them.

Civilian defense should mean what it says,—serious preparation for war—not another excuse for WPA entertainment, as she was attempting. No matter how noble her uplift intentions, the best thing she has done is to resign.

Tax Reform Oratory

We would really like to credit Secretary of State Earl Snell with something more substantial than campaign oratory when he advocates substitution of a single commissioner appointed by the governor for the present three-man commission named by and responsible to the board of control. But we cannot.

Nor can we agree with Snell that "the commission now is more powerful than the legislature that created it or the state board of control that appointed it."

If it is, it is the fault of a weak and uninformed legislature and a subservient board of control. Either body has the authority to control the policies and override the administrative acts of the commission.

A sure way to destroy the efficiency of the tax commission in establishing a permanent and continuing state tax program is to make it a part of the political spoils of any one elective official; to make its administration an issue in every gubernatorial campaign or to sacrifice the advantages of departmentalization that provides for a segregation of complex duties among three commissioners.

Talk of effecting economies through a one-man commission is all bunk. The work of the commission naturally falls into three departments, those of income and similar taxes, real and personal taxes and public utility taxation. Each requires trained and experienced direction, now supplied by one of the commissioners. Each would still require a head under the Snell plan—and a fourth man, the commissioner, to boss them.

But talking any kind of tax reform is a good way to get a hearing these days.

Purging Potential Spies

In a move aimed principally at the Japanese problem on the Pacific coast, President Roosevelt, exercising his wartime power as commander-in-chief, by an executive order has given the army sweeping authority to remove "any or all persons" from "military areas" or to impose restrictions on them. The army can act in any locality anywhere in the United States if necessity arises, but its immediate application will be on American citizens of Japanese descent. The order empowers the war department to provide such items as transportation, food and shelter for persons evacuated from the new war zones. It supercedes prohibited and restricted areas previously closed to enemy aliens by order of the justice department.

Many of the second generation of Japanese are loyal to the United States, some of them serving in the army. But some are not. Japan, like Germany and Italy, refuses to recognize such American citizenship, and the experience of Japanese fifth columns in Hawaii, the Philippines and Singapore certainly justifies every precaution in the Pacific coast states, where there are few defenses. Strategic areas, at least, should be purged of all potential spies and saboteurs.

Things to Worry About

By Beck



Kelly Says:

Questions Asked About Labor Racketeers

Potential Power Projects Numerous

Obstacles Many to Actual Development

By John W. Kelly

Washington, Feb. 21.—How much money have unions collected for issuing work permits; by what right do the unions charge a fee to an American to engage in war work; what becomes of this money? These are questions being asked by Virginia's Byrd, and when Senator Byrd asks for information he usually obtains it. The senator's inquiry is general, but it will have particular significance in the northwest where the unions have been selling permits to work in many of the war industries and where they are preparing to set up offices to collect this fee from those looking for jobs on the cantonments at Medford and Corvallis.

Contractors, it appears, make an agreement with the unions that the latter will furnish all the labor required; thereafter the contractors have nothing to say about workmen, the union acting as the employment office. As the unions do not wish to increase their membership unnecessarily, they issue work permits which give the unions' authorization for non-union men to work. For this work permit various fees are charged; at one factory on Puget Sound it is \$1 a shift for the higher paid workers. This is more money than would be paid in as much as if the worker belonged to the union. There is no means of learning how much revenue the unions are obtaining from the work permits, but Senator Byrd may smoke it out eventually by a law compelling an accounting.

Labor Worries Congress

Labor continues to worry members of congress. The welders in the northwest, the demands in the lumber industry for transportation, demands for another \$1 a day to meet increasing cost of living, shutdowns in important industries for trivial reasons. Congress does not like to see 10,000 men in a plant quit to work for an hour as a demonstration, for this means 10,000 hours or 1,250 days—30 weeks. Thirty weeks in certain plants will represent 400 airplanes and a fleet of tanks or a cargo carrier.

From cabinet gorge on the Montana-Idaho line to Ross dam on the Skagit river in Washington, and to Detroit on the Santiam river in Oregon, the latest power development for the northwest includes every potential site in the three states. Congress is requested to make an investigation and report in three months and then, assuming congress gives its blessing, the entire comprehensive program is to start building.

Every proposed dam and additional turbine suggested in the report is feasible, logical, and some day will be utilized, presumably with government money as the plan is intended to shove out of the picture any and all private utility companies in that region. There is a potential power development in practically every congressional district in Idaho, Oregon and Washington, a point which has not been overlooked in framing the recommendations.

Little New in Power

There are very few proposals in the power program. The same sites for dams, the possibilities of tucking in additional waterwheels in existing dams, etc., have all been used in other pronouncements from the federal power commission and the department of the interior. There has been a regrouping, but without exception each prospective kilowatt has been publicized in the past.

If but a part of the program should be sanctioned by congress it would require two or three years to attain a point where power would be generated. Dams require about two years to build; turbines from 12 to 18 months depending on size. If the even flow of business proceeds. War will lengthen the time. The matter of priorities is becoming more difficult with each passing month. Steel and concrete cannot be ordered like a sack of potatoes; the holder of a priority

order stands in line, waits his turn. The waterwheel must be designed and built, and factories making turbines are now swamped with navy orders and with equipment for 1000 merchant vessels now under contract. Labor is another element and becoming scarce. These power dams require hundreds of workmen who for some time to come will be more interested in war industries than in dam building.

Pet Project Comes First

In the national capital the power program looks nice on paper, but there are so many serious obstacles in the way that there is little belief expressed that it will materialize within 50 years or more. There is a possibility that some one or two dams may be authorized, up in northern Idaho and on the Skagit river, or even at Umatilla, but no wholesale authorization is anticipated. Besides, the president prefers that his own pet project, the St. Lawrence waterway, shall have the right-of-way.

Josephine, wife of Napoleon, was born in Martinique.

OPEN FORUM

Contributions to this column must be plainly written on one side of paper only, limited to 300 words in length and signed with the name of the writer. Articles not meeting these specifications will be rejected. If return of unpublished articles is desired self-addressed, stamped envelope must be enclosed.

To the Editor: It seems from common sense thinking and sound judgment, the short editorial appearing in the Capital Journal of the issue of February 12 under the heading of soft-cushion loggers, should be answered, in the light of depicting the modern side of the situation. The loggers were willing to work for the same wages and furnish their own transportation until our government stepped in and denied them tires for their cars to conserve the rubber for the defense of our nation. The modern logger is not the same man as of a few years back. He does not choose to go back in the jungle and stay constantly with the exceptions of a fortnight vacation during the Fourth of July and Christmas. The modern logger makes more money than 90 per cent of the business men in town, therefore why should he not want to go to town each weekend. If he didn't business in town would shrink more than the first week following the Pearl Harbor raid. To conserve several commodities for defense, our government has curtailed considerably the business of all business men in every town. Now if the logger is expected to go back in the timber and stay most of his time he is liable to be the only citizen financially able to buy defense bonds and stamps. To curtail the free flow of money among the small business men while we are in war is the craziest kind of thought. We should strive to do just the opposite. If the next curtailment of business is to compel our loggers the freest spenders on earth, to go back in the timber and stay, as they did 40 years ago when wages were small and there were no automobiles, then we shall have no business except the big business of war, and our government will have a monopoly on that. We shall have a Hitler government without a Hitler, just the kind of government we are fighting to keep

SIDNEY SEALS.

To the Editor: In regard to your editorial on Soft Cushion Loggers and logging ain't what it used to be, it is probably true in more ways than one.

But I see that your editorials haven't. For you are writing on a subject that you are poorly informed on, or you are purposely misconstruing the facts to prejudice and confuse the minds of other poorly informed readers.

In the first place the loggers cannot replace their present tires when they are worn out, but employers can get tires for the conveyance of 10 or more men to and from work.

And in the second place their soft-cushioned buses consist of a truck with flat bed, and board seats, and bows with slats, and a canvas cover to keep out the wind and rain, and would not cost a dollar and up for each employe as you state when from 10 to 35 men were transported per truck.

And besides the loggers are not asking transportation from their home, but from some centralized location where they can board or congregate to be hauled over the rough private logging roads.

The companies construct and operate bunk and boarding houses on the job which is fair and just. Furthermore I'm a logger and a subscriber to your propaganda sheet. And I invite you to come and work with me on the opposite end of a falling saw on the week, and I'll wager the shine on the seat of your pants will disappear as well as a streamlining of your waistline.

F. L. TANDY, Dallas, Ore.

Mermaid

Two weeks ago 11 artists were assigned to paint murals on the walls of the navy receiving barracks in Brooklyn.

Soon ships and maps and former naval heroes brightened the rooms. But sailors were in almost continual conference with the artists, pleading and arguing.

They won the argument. Today, a lovely mermaid beams from the library wall.

Ingrates

Coffeyville, Kas.—The mother cat on the Carl Rich farm didn't mind so much when an old hen butted in and took over the raising of two new kittens.

But Rich figures the cat has a legitimate complaint now.

Each night when the hen goes to roost, the kittens climb up beside her to snooze.

Transportation Note

Tucson, Ariz.—Ten-year-old Betty Apulline Kilmer brightened the La Fiesta De Los Vaqueros parade with her miniature prairie schooner, drawn by a team of cooker spaniels. On either side of the wagon was painted the slogan "Use your dogs and save rubber."

But No Flats Fixed

El Paso, Tex.—The Rev. Theo. H. Evers was urging members of his Zion Lutheran congregation to attend Lenten services. "Watchmen will be stationed," he intoned, "to protect your tires."

Safe Evidence

Chattanooga, Tenn.—Mrs. Mildred Anderson saw a newspaper photograph and learned that her son had participated in the navy raids on the Gilbert and Marshall Islands and that he was safe. The picture showed seaman repairing damage to their vessel, and among them she recognized her son, Jimmy Verne Anderson.

The Fireside Pulpit

By REV. E. S. HAMMOND

"For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matt. 11:30.

I received a letter the other day that gave me a pleased surprise. It was sent to Rev. T. D. Yarnes, the secretary of the Oregon Conference of the Methodist church. By him it was forwarded to Rev. S. Raynor Smith of this city, who turned it over to me. It was written by an Iowa minister who was the secretary of the college class of 1892 of Iowa Wesleyan university, and he desired details about the date of death and burial place of Rev. J. R. Payne, who, it seems, was a member of that class, and who passed away here in Salem some years ago. I knew Rev. Payne, and was able to send him the desired information.

But it was the name signed to the letter of inquiry which interested me especially, for it was the name of a student of Boston university who helped me in an evangelistic meeting in my church in a Massachusetts village during the Christmas vacation of 1894-95. He wrote me a fine letter in reply to mine, and in that letter he mentioned an incident of one of the meetings he held that winter. He said he had often told of this in his preaching, and the same thing is true of myself.

One evening during that meeting an old man arose and said, "I was twenty years old when I was

converted. I was living in New Hampshire, and I was working hard in a saw mill. Every week that winter I used to walk four miles each way to attend a prayer meeting. There were a couple of young fellows working with me, and they used to laugh at me, and say, "You must have a hard master to make you walk four miles to prayer meeting after a hard day's work." I lived to see one of those boys die in delirium tremens and the other die in prison because of a murder committed when he was drunk. I am now eighty-eight years old, and 'goodness and mercy have followed me all the days of my life.'"

What this good old man had found in his life is just what millions of God's people have found in their experience. People sometimes think that religion is joyless, and the way of righteousness is a hard, barren road. The "primrose path" seems so easy, and so delightful. But appearances are terribly deceptive. Sin never gives permanent peace or satisfying joy. The wise man has said, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Those are wise words for this world and the next who believe and trust in Jesus' word, "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

We were tipped off to a rather remarkable feat in dexterity displayed the other day by "Slim" Maw of the Sunshine division of the police department, when he recaptured a pet porcupine which had escaped from its owners and had taken refuge in a tree out in front of 650 North Winter street. "Slim's" bladders failed to entice the porcupine down so he secured a piece of small rope, ascended the tree and from the insecure vantage point of a small limb he tugged the little fellow and brought him safely back to earth. Yea, our informant, who watched the proceedings, said Slim took about three or four shots at it before the lasso noose dropped over the porcupine's neck and closed in on him. Maybe Leo Spitzbart should look this boy over as an attraction for the state fair, the only "porcupine lassoer" ever seen on any stage anywhere or in any outdoor arena.

Fools Rush In
 Los Angeles, (AP)—In chronological order, here's what happened last night outside a corner drug store.

Mrs. Laura Roberts walked in to buy a package of cigarettes. Her husband waited outside. He decided to hide behind a tree and give his wife a scare.

Mrs. Roberts came out, Mr. Roberts leaped out—and a total stranger leaped in. He punched at Mr. Roberts, who punched back.

Mrs. Roberts screamed and started punching, too—at her would-be rescuer. She even broke a finger.

The chivalrous stranger, now completely bewildered, got out of there as fast as he could.

The English language is a tough one, for instance—inspect the sentence, "A gnat gnawed on a gnu." To figure that one out would almost drive one gnuts, as it were.

Patriotism at Its Best
 (O.A.S. in Jefferson Review)

"One of the six women who helped register local men for the draft last Monday was a mother who had the unique experience of registering her son. The mother was Mrs. Eugene Finlay who registered her youngest son, John. Many mothers give their sons to the army, but few are asked to register them, too. It

wouldn't be a very happy experience for a mother, would it?"

The Jefferson incident takes us back to Joaquin Miller's poem, "The bravest battle that ever was fought, need I tell you where and when, on the maps of the world you will find not, it was fought by the mothers of men."

The Idea Spreads
 (Corvallis Gazette-Times)
 "The people of Orofino, Ida., have protested to congress against the proposed expenditure of \$1,600 for a "mural" for their new post-office, on the ground that it is a useless expenditure in the nation's present emergency."

Perrydale Pupils Get Honor Ratings

Perrydale—Principal LeRoy Scott released the high school honor roll names Friday morning. First honor roll, Evelyn Etzel; second honor roll, Rogene Miller, John Wall, Elizabeth Broadwell, Dorothy Fryrear, Peggy Houk, Joyce Johnson, Lorraine Vincent, Martha Jean Schellberg, May Helen Strikwerda, Jeannette Van Staaveren, Mildred Brown, Maxine Morrison.

Room and Board . . . By Gene Ahern



Salem Sketches By Will Danch



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ettes they had on hand at the time the law was declared void by the supreme court. For example, to get at some understanding in this matter, I will state from the facts as they are with me.

All retailers paid tax on all cigarettes on their shelves at the start on January 8, also on all cigarettes purchased from their wholesalers during the time the law was in effect thus leaving them with tax paid cigarettes on their shelves in some instances running into quite a sum of money which they feel should be returned to them.

As for the balance of money collected which the consumer had paid in to the state in this manner, that does not concern them as to its disposal. This is the consensus of opinion I have been able to get by talking to dealers.

A. J. BUSICK, Salem, Oregon.

To the Editor: Parents are giving their sons!

Sons are giving their lives! Everyone is buying defense bonds and doing his bit for his country.

But, what has happened to the patriotism of the state of Oregon?

Why is our state government not as big as the "little fellow"?

Our president and all 100 per cent Americans feel that the defense of America is the most important of all. One would like to believe that the state of Oregon also would be "all out" for defense.

Yet, how do you account for this situation? If state employes, most of who have knowledge needed in defense industries, desire to accept a defense job, they lose all benefits they have earned from years of faithful service—seniority, accumulated sick leaves, etc. They are given no assurance that their positions will be restored at the close of this emergency, and in some cases are denied even a short leave of absence.

Of course the thought arises, if these privileges (or one might say—rights) were not forfeited by leaving, would not all state employes soon be gone? This would not necessarily be true. By keeping only the ones essential to operating state business, the payroll would be reduced considerably. A wage could be paid consistent with the advance in prices and corresponding with that paid in defense works.

As you probably know, state expenditures for new work and maintenance have been drastically curtailed. Many men, who, heretofore, have found their time fully occupied, are now idle at their desks.

Idle men at state jobs are an unnecessary drain on the taxpayers' pocketbooks. Whereas, if these men were at defense jobs, they would be helping to win the war and at the same time would be relieving the already heavy load of the taxpayers.

The state can be patriotic and have a heart by assuring these people that their positions will be waiting when men return to their homes and families.

Very truly yours,
 FRED CROMWELL.

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