

Capital Journal

SALEM, OREGON
ESTABLISHED MARCH 1, 1888

An Independent Newspaper Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday at 444
Chimney St. Phone—Business Office 3311; News Room 3372; Society Editor 3373

GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Publisher

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
AND THE UNITED PRESS

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
BY CARRIER: Weekly, \$1.25; Monthly, \$3.75; One Year, \$42.00.
BY MAIL IN OREGON: Monthly, \$3.00; Six Months, \$16.00; One Year, \$16.00.

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Willkie Calls the Turn

When Wendell Willkie told a gathering of republicans at Oshkosh, Wis., the other night that "The ablest politicians in the republican party are but amateurs compared with those now running our government," he put his finger squarely on the factor which threatens to perpetuate the Roosevelt administration in power for another four years. For the President and the most important of his advisers have an uncanny faculty for creating or appropriating popular issues and in grabbing credit for them.

Willkie warned that the leaders of the republican party have got to abandon their reliance on cheap scheming and political manipulation to win elections. Defeat, he said, confronts the party if it seeks to play "smear politics" instead of meeting issues squarely.

Willkie's own candidacy for the republican presidential nomination does not detract one iota from the truth of the criticism he leveled at the Dewey-pledged candidates for convention delegates whom he described as representing a "narrow isolationism and economic torism," or the MacArthur supporters who ask election on "the basis of no discussion of issues." The latter group, he charged, "seeks to represent through silence, all divergent viewpoints."

The trouble with republican leadership has been its failure to keep pace with the changing political thought, and its refusal to battle openly and courageously even for the discredited principles it secretly espoused. There has been too much pussy-footing and shush-shushing as regards unpopular, worn out theories of government; too much trust in negative campaigning.

Willkie represents a new kind of leadership—leadership that believes "issues should be discussed and determined by the people . . . in restoration of individual initiative but in retaining the humanizing influences of recent social gains."

May Do Something About It

There have been millions of words written and spoken of late years on the subject of the growing encroachment of the federal government on the rights of the states, a tendency which gained ground during the depths of the depression—when states and local governments grasped greedily for federal financial assistance. But nobody has done much more than talk about it.

Now comes Senator Millard E. Tydings of Maryland with the proposal that the whole problem be objectively studied, with a view to remedial action by congress. He asks in a resolution presented in the senate that each of the governors of the 48 states prepare data on four phases of federal-state relations as a basis for post-war action. The four points are:

1. Proper field of taxation as between the federal government and state and local governments.
 2. Proper division of authority between the federal and state governments with respect to the regulation of commerce.
 3. Proper percentages of contributions to be made by the federal, state and local governments toward financing of post-war work, welfare and social security programs.
 4. The functions of government which should be exercised exclusively by the federal government, those which should be exercised by state and local governments, and those which may be combined or exercised jointly.
- Some answer to these problems must be devised if local and state governments are to escape being swallowed up in the growing momentum of federal centralization.

The Surplus Spud Problem

Potato dealers are worried over the fact that new potatoes will swamp the market within a few weeks unless the federal government speeds its program to move the 138 million bushel carry-over on March 1 from last year's record crop of 480 million bushels. And little seems being done to get the old crop of spuds out of the way, though the government program contemplated dehydration for starch, for industrial alcohol, for cattle feed and various other uses.

Normal consumption is expected to reduce the surplus but the potato dealers organization says that "little is being done" to move the 30 million bushels expected to be on hand as the new crop reaches its peak. The war food administration explains that on March 3 a contract was let for shipment of 5000 carloads to sugar beet plants for dehydration, and these plants report that they are not running to capacity.

The potato trade estimates that all the sugar beet and starch plants of the country could take care of only a few thousand of the estimated 24,000 carloads of old spuds that must be moved to be saved—so some other use must be found.

The query naturally arises as to why, when there is such a shortage of alcohol for war purposes that all distilleries have been stopped from making alcoholic beverages, causing thereby a nation-wide shortage in whisky, those surplus potatoes are not utilized for making alcohol. Germany gets nearly all her alcohol from potatoes, and under the nazi regime has built many distilleries and subsidized the Prussian junkers to grow potatoes merely for alcohol. New Deal bureaucracy is overlooking a bet.

Showdown for the Satellites

With the Russian army advancing into sight of the Carpathians, Hungarian sources state that the Germans, swiftly completing the occupation of Hungary, have set up a nazi puppet government at Budapest and removed Regent Admiral Horthy, Premier Kallay and Foreign Minister de Ghyczy to Germany as hostages.

Hitler has maintained large forces in all of the Axis satellite nations to meet such emergencies. In Hungary some 150,000 German troops have occupied strategic points to prepare a last ditch stand behind the Carpathians against the approaching Red army and to forestall a Hungarian peace move.

In all probability the same strategy is being employed by Hitler in Rumania to stall off capture of the oil fields. Similar German pressure undoubtedly accounts for the rejection by Finland of the Russian peace terms. The governments of most of these satellite countries owe their jobs to Hitler and the people have little to say.

It is becoming evident that the Allies have a hard fight ahead before their reach Germany and can get little support from the unarmed and systematically starved people of the occupied countries let alone the satellite nations. There will be an all-out struggle that will complete the devastation of Europe before the Reich itself is reached.

Hungary like Finland will face the weight of the Russian army as well as Allied bombing and possible invasion if she does not surrender and eventual share in Germany's downfall.



Revive Story of Amelia Earhart Taken to Japan by Rescuer

By Eugene Burns

Marshall Island, March 4 (Delayed) (AP)—The possibility that Amelia Earhart Putnam, world famed aviatrix, ran out of gas in the Marshall Islands and was taken to Japan has been revived by a remark of a mission trained native to Lt. Eugene T. Bogan, New York City.

Lt. Bogan, a former New York tax lawyer and now a representative of the Marshall island military governor, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander of the Pacific fleet, said Elieu, the 30-year-old native, limited himself to these statements and stuck to them:

"A Jap trader named Ajima three and a half years ago on Rita island told me that an American woman pilot came down between Jaluit and Ailinglapalap atolls and that she was picked up by a Japanese fishing boat and the trader Ajima heard that she was taken to Japan."

Elieu insisted that he heard of no man being with the "American woman pilot." Fred Noonan flew with Miss Putnam as navigator on her world-girdling trip.

Lt. James Toole, 26, Washington, D. C., added "Elieu told me the same story. He was positive in confining himself to what he was told by Ajima, the Jap trader. Ajima in telling about the 'American woman flyer' would be most impressed of course with the woman flyer, and the importance of the man would not amount to much—females are so inferior in Japan."

Bogan added: "Bauer being

Novelties In the News

No "Ladder" Today

Williamsport, Pa. — Sheriff Joseph M. Schmucker has accomplished what he set out to do when he took office last January.

He's talked Lycoming county into moving a pole which has served as a ladder for escaping county jail prisoners since a horse thief first used it in 1896.

Sgt. Loll Regrets

Chicago—An invitation to a child's birthday party was delivered to six year old Marilyn Gunderson after a round trip across the Atlantic ocean. It was posted Feb. 5 and went to Sgt. Harry Loll, a Chicago soldier stationed in England, who wrote Marilyn that the invitation had slipped into one of his V-mail letters. He added:

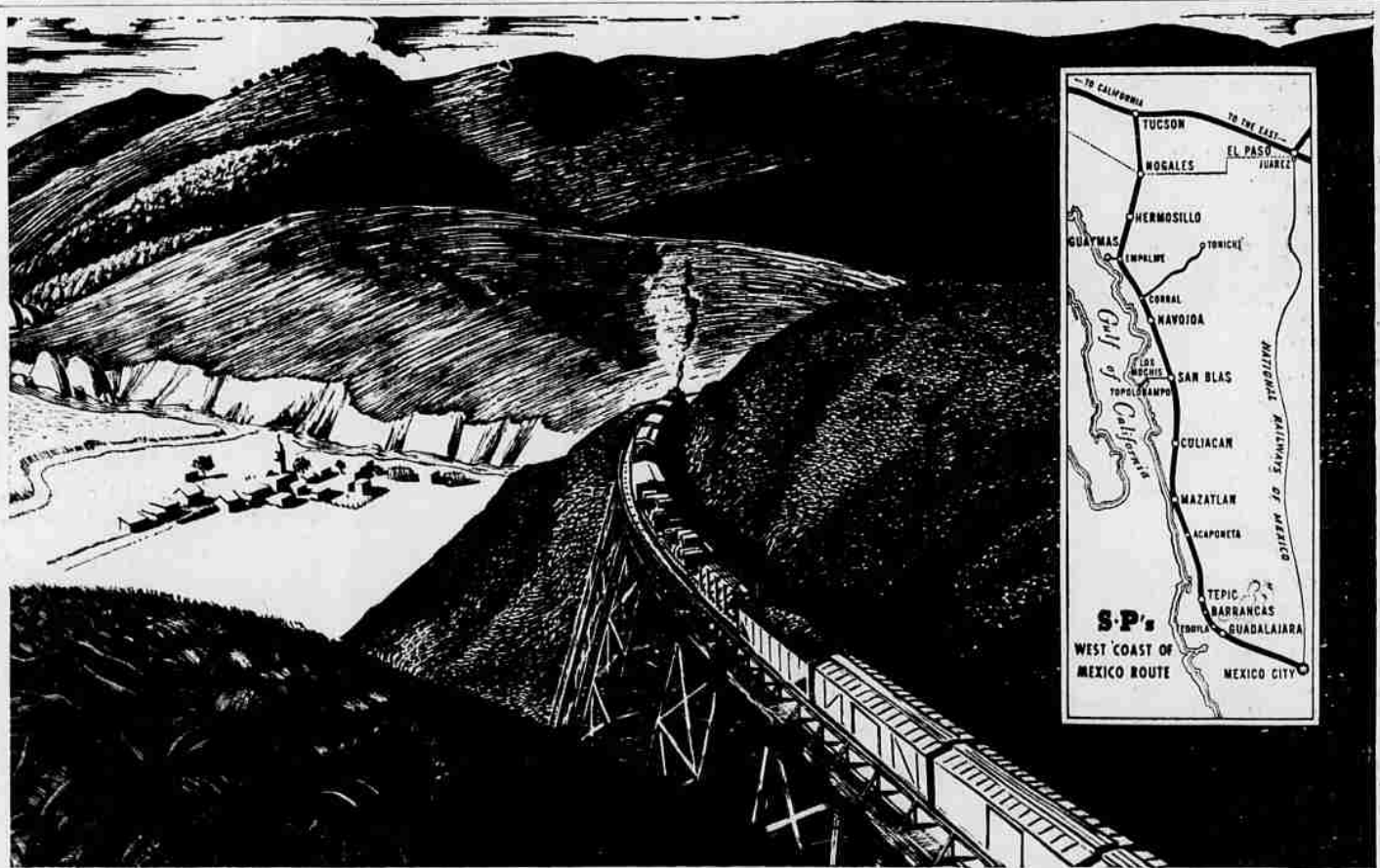
"Believe me, if I were close by, I would have tried to break in on that party."

The Unafraid

Evanston, Ill. — Miss Arline Hippie didn't scream when a young man snatched her purse—she chased him.

The purse snatcher jumped a fence; so did Miss Hippie. Finally she caught him, snatched back her purse, containing her pay check and \$5, and walked away without further molestation.

She told police her story after she got home.



SOUTH OF THE BORDER, TOO, our war trains roll

Do you know of the close teamwork achieved by Mexico and the United States in this war?

Picturesque areas of Mexico now provide materials for U. S. war production and foods in amazing variety, while products required by Mexico are moving south. As is the custom of good neighbors, we supply each other's needs.

Important factors in this international teamwork are the railroads linking our two countries . . . Southern Pacific in the United States, Sud Pacifico de Mexico, and the National Railways of Mexico. These railroads work together in transporting products of our two countries.

The People of Mexico, like ourselves, are very busy now . . .

Lovely Michoacan, where peacetime tourists saw the "Dance of the Old Men," is furnishing resin and turpentine. Blue Gulf waters off Guaymas, Topolobampo and Mazatlan, famed for marlin and sailfish, yield vitamin-rich shark oil.

Mercury, silver and tungsten come from the quaint old hill town of Taxco. Manganese from Jalisco, Durango and Chihuahua. Mahogany and balsam woods from Tehuantepec. Henequen fiber for rope from Yucatan peninsula where ancient Mayan cities lie in awesome ruins.

Acapulco, in the tropic zone, sends us bananas, limes and coconuts. We are receiving coffee from Orizaba and Cordoba, and cattle, tomatoes, garbanzos from Mexico's fertile west coast.

From Guadalajara, southern terminus of Sud Pacifico de Mexico, Mexico City is an overnight trip via the National Railways of Mexico. The National Railways are also linked with our lines at El Paso, and at other border points served by S.P.'s Sunset and Golden State routes.

We cannot ask you to travel now, because of our great war load. But when peace comes again we hope you'll ride with us to Mexico.

They have a proverb there: "Once the dust of Mexico has settled on your heart, you have no peace in any other land."

To learn how true this proverb is, invest in War Bonds now. For War Bonds will make possible fine train trips after the war, when you can make such trips with a clear conscience.



Sud Pacifico de Mexico, as you may know, is S.P.'s scenic and interesting West Coast of Mexico route. Crossing the border at Nogales, Arizona, this 1100-mile route runs south to Guadalajara. It

The War Today

By DeWitt Mackenzie

An interpretative analysis of war developments by a famous Associated Press war correspondent.

Henry Ford's prediction in a copyrighted interview for the Atlanta Constitution, that the war will be over in two months is a right tasty morsel to roll under the tongue and it will attract a lot of attention, coming as it does from a man whose name is a household word the world around.

Mr. Ford leaves us a bit up in the air, however, because he withholds the reasoning back of his prophesy.

The consensus among observers is that the fuhrer is reduced to such straits that his resistance might blow up most any time. We must hasten to add that there are plenty of indications, including his stand at Cassino and today's report of his occupation of Hungary, of his intention to make a bloody fight of it.

Hitler Short on Reserves

When the nazi gangster does decide to quit, the end likely will be quick. He doesn't intend to battle until the last dog is dead—not if he's the last dog.

We must remember that Hitler's strongest weapon is his army, and the bulk of that is on the Russian front. This once terrifying wherewithal has been woefully reduced in strength by slaughter and he no longer has reserves to meet the Muscovite onslaught. The present disaster which has overtaken him in southern Russia is a sign of his growing weakness.

The once all-powerful luftwaffe is but a shadow of the mighty arm that almost crushed England.

The resources which Hitler stole from occupied countries have been used, and Europe is as bare as Old Mother Hubbard's cupboard.

It's important to note that the cumulative effects of the allied air onslaught, especially the bombing of war industries, are just now making themselves felt in a big way. Each day finds the momentum of disaster increasing.

Now Playing for Time

All this the nazi dictator has

recognized. That's why he has adopted his strategy of playing for time: hope of a lucky break, such as a split among the allies. He plans to fight a delaying action and finally defend himself on his own frontiers. There's widespread belief, however, that he will surrender when allied invasion of the reich is imminent so as to save the country from manhandling.

With this background we ask ourselves what happens when the red armies have stormed their way to the reich frontier—or when an American-British-French invasion force is on Germany's western border. It would be one of the seven wonders of the war if any allied army stood on Hitler's boundary in two months.

The communist organ Pravda of Moscow makes significant comment. It says the Germans are on the verge of chaos and that the time is ripe for decisive blows "from the east, west and south."

That's a call for quick invasion of western Europe, to coordinate with the red onslaught.

Pure Elections Bill Passes House

Washington, March 21 (AP)—The house Monday passed and sent to the senate legislation

making it a criminal offense to distribute or publish anonymous political statements relating to candidates for federal office.

A maximum penalty of one year imprisonment, a fine of \$1,000 or both is provided for violation.

Under the measure, the names of those responsible for publishing or distributing pamphlets, circulars, cards, dodgers, posters, advertisements or any other statements concerning candidates must be stated. If the material is issued by a committee, association, corporation, names of the officers must be given.

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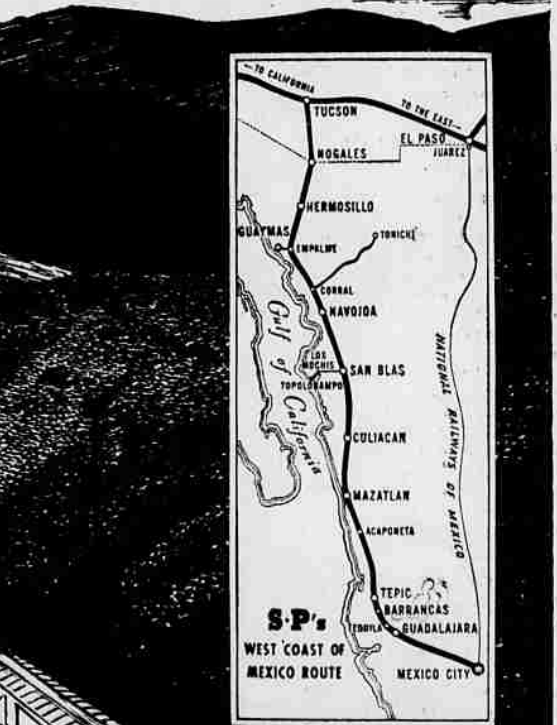
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