

# Capital Journal

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## The Big Three Conference

The conference of the Big Three at Potsdam differs from the San Francisco conference in that it is primarily a war conference and very properly veiled in secrecy while the latter was a peace conference and the entire proceedings openly conducted, as they should have been. Even then it was more hindered than helped by the conflicting reports and carping of press and radio observers and commentators seeking discord with their warped viewpoints. Military decisions cannot be publicized lest they aid and forewarn the enemy.

The press generally seems to think that the Potsdam parley is a public debating society and that its global strategy preliminaries should be publicized before decision is reached. For instance the Portland Journal says there is "no occasion for secrecy at Potsdam," and continues:

"President Truman, Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin are meeting in the common interest of all the people whom they represent. And those whom they do not represent, too, are looking to them for leadership. Thus it is of utmost importance that the news of the conference be given freely and frankly to the world, and promptly. There have been enough of things in the dark. Let there be light."

Before any decisions can be reached, there must be many discussions to agree on a common policy and co-operation insured by a give and take policy for harmony. When final decisions are reached on other than military strategy the conference will unquestionably announce them, and when the meeting is over a complete report issued, for all the three governments concerned realize the necessity of securing public support.

The American conference delegation in its first progress report on the deliberations of the Big Three announced that the work of the meeting is going ahead steadily and that "much serious business has been done," though no details of the nature of the discussions were given.

President Truman in his speech at the symbolic flag raising at Berlin adhered to the traditional foreign policy of the United States when he said:

"We are raising this flag in the name of the people of the United States, who are looking forward to a better world, a peaceful world, in which all the people will have an opportunity of enjoying peace and opportunity. There is not one piece of territory or one thing of a monetary nature that we want out of this war. We want peace and prosperity for the world as a whole. We want to see the time come when we can do the things in peace that we have been able to do in war. If we can put this tremendous machine of ours, which has made this victory possible, to work for peace we could look forward to the greatest age in the history of mankind. That is what we propose to do."

We can rest assured that Mr. Truman and probably both Mr. Churchill and Mr. Stalin will co-operate to the best of their ability to solve the tremendous problems before them and reach the best possible solution, which, if not perfect, will be far ahead of anything yet attempted and leave the way open for subjects deferred for future action.

## Two Discoverers

The Oregonian and Governor Earl Snell have made two great, if somewhat belated discoveries. The Oregonian has discovered that slot machines are being operated in Portland, and the governor has discovered that while their suppression is primarily the concern of local law enforcement officials, "the executive department has very definite obligations and responsibilities" as regards their illegal operations.

It took a new crop of these one-armed bandits, fresh off the "factory production line," gay in their laqueered coloring, to attract the Portland newspaper's attention to their illegal existence. An enterprising reporter, admitting knowledge of their existence in clubs "and those establishments where people are wont to gather and express opinions on the relative merits of bangtails or distant trackage," found the "cute" new devices blossoming further in beer parlors, lunch counters and combinations of the two. He also found them in pool halls and card rooms, north end resorts and tobacco counters in hotels and other locations. And along with the slot machines he found punch boards, all of which the Oregonian adjudged to be news of first page importance.

Governor Snell's discovery was of the second hand variety. Commenting upon the Oregonian's revelations, the governor recalled that "several months ago I forwarded to local officials of several counties a list of those counties in which machines were alleged to be operating and at which time I called attention to provisions of the law which placed responsibility on local officials." At that time the governor promised that if investigation revealed such conditions to exist and local officials did not correct them he would take action. He also inferred that his office would keep in touch with the slot machine situation from time to time and see to it that the laws were enforced.

As usually happens, the illegal devices disappeared from sight almost overnight when the governor made his first announcement. But the echoes of his warning had scarcely died out before the machines re-appeared. In Portland they have been operating openly and almost continuously for months. In Lincoln county and other counties they have appeared in such numbers as to practically drive out licensed pinball machines. All of this is known to the state police and other officials, yet it takes a blast of publicity to move enforcement officers to act.

Through his liquor commission and its authority to issue licenses to beer parlors and other places selling beer and wine, the governor has an effective weapon for suppressing illegal gambling devices. Ninety percent of the slot machines are operated in places holding beer licenses, and operation of these machines could be ended by refusing licenses to places operating slot machines and punch boards.

## Franco's Appeasement

General Francisco Franco, Fascist dictator of Spain, has reorganized his cabinet with a purge of Falangist party (Fascist) ministers, in an evident effort toward a restoration of the monarchy and rapprochement with the Allies and to perpetuate himself in power.

London reports state that Franco is preparing to proclaim the nine-year old Alfonso Jaimase, grandson of the exiled King Alfonso, king designate and appoint himself as head of a regency to administer Spain until the boy monarch reaches his majority.

In the first major government shake-up since the civil war, Franco ousted nine of his 13 cabinet ministers and abolished the post of Falangist party secretary-general who held the cabinet post of minister without portfolio. The position was not filled. The latter's chief opponent, who helped steer Spain away from the Axis, was also ousted, as a conciliatory gesture to the Falangist movement. The head of the Catholic action party replaced him as foreign minister.

It is doubtful if Franco succeeds in appeasing either the Allies or the Spanish republicans, socialists or communists. The old exiled democratic government is reported reassembling in France for another Spanish civil war and the overthrow of Franco.



## The Fireside Pulpit

Reverend George H. Swift  
Rector, Saint Paul's Episcopal Church

**Blessed Are The Peacemakers**—In the broad sense, peace makers are not only the few who gather together to rearrange boundaries and plan world-wide economic systems. Peace makers are also the armed forces which prosecute the war to a successful conclusion. Peace makers are all the peoples of the nations who support all efforts to clear the way for a just and lasting peace. Peacemakers are all those who create a public opinion strong enough to influence rightly the decisions of our leaders. You and I by our prayers and the united prayers of millions of others can have a voice in creating and maintaining international security.

The peace that is envisioned will fail if it is based entirely on sentimentality or human emotion. Scripture attests to the frailty of human nature—"man is as prone to evil as the sparks fly upwards" therefore we must not again attempt to establish a peace which does not take this fact into consideration and make provision accordingly.

When we have declared that all men are brothers, we must not then assume that all men everywhere will always behave

as brothers! We must have a police force not only international law but a fervent desire upon the part of an overwhelming majority of people in the world to keep peace. The encouragement of democratic principles based on justice and human understanding, and the furtherance of economic security for all men are at least two of the foundation stones of enduring peace. In other words, the true basis for peace in the world lies in the practical application through international order of the Christian principles of brotherhood in terms of democracy and economic justice.

May the God of peace work through the prayers of the peoples of the nations give our leaders at conferences and peace tables the wisdom and courage to make decisions that Christian principles may triumph and wars cease.

## Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

A transport load of soldiers yoo-hooed at General Ben Lear and from what we can find out all the general did was to Lear back.

"The horn of plenty is rapidly being filled in this wide spot of God's green footstool," says the Mill City Enterprise. The editor should keep quiet about this or maybe the OPA will find out.

**There's Our Armory, Too**  
(Roseburg News-Review)

"There is an unshakable conviction that one of the first major items of business on the big three agenda at Potsdam is the allotment to the Roseburg armory of a captured cannon to replace the one contributed to the war effort."

Little Al, the very young offspring of Dr. Terry King et ux, has been taking swimming lessons out at Leslie pool and the instructor has been getting some fear of the water out of his little head. So among other stunts in the course of instruction is to have the lad sit under water at the bottom of the pool. But Al couldn't exactly see it that way. He complained to his parents, "I thought I was taking lessons so I could learn to swim on top of the water and not just to sit on the bottom."

When the rain bathed our streets this a.m., and also green-up a little more of that particu-

lar portion of God's green footstool, heretofore referred to, it came as a very welcome change. But we bet a referendum would show that all and sundry in these parts would be glad to surrender up any share of the rain which may have dribbled down here and have same transferred over on the forest fires and environs. We hope there is plenty to go around so they'll get a soaking over the week-end that will wind up all that sort of business in a hurry and keep it wound up.

Tires for civilians are now being promised by around January or February but we bet for a lot of same it will be the old story of too little too late.

**A Use for Water Found at Last**  
(Monmouth Herald)

A Monmouth woman came in to the shop recently. She said her radio was bothered with static which interfered with things she wanted to hear. No one seemed to be available to look into the matter so she determined to try a few schemes of her own. Out of doors she found where the ground wire was fastened to a pipe driven into the ground. She poured some water on the pipe. It worked. No more static. There may be a hint in this for others. At any rate this one woman was quite jubilant over her accomplishment.

## The War Today

By DeWitt Mackenzie

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

Admiral Takahashi, retired Japanese naval commander-in-chief, says his country's sea and air forces will go into action soon and that the "day of victory" is rapidly approaching.

It perhaps has no special significance that this survivor of the mikado's hara-kiri club does not say whose day of victory is approaching—whether it belongs to Nippon or to the allies—but he needn't labor that point. We already know that Japan is walking the last mile. The only thing in doubt is when we shall administer the cope de grace.

The Japanese sea and air fleets presumably will come into action, provided our air bombardment doesn't compel surrender. But they will be fighting defensively to try to deny our amphibious invasion of the homeland. As remarked in a previous column, they are following the Hitlerian strategy of battling for time in hope that some luke will save them.

**Much Depends on Stalin**  
Great things depend on what Stalin is saying to President Truman and Prime Minister Churchill in Potsdam right now. Observers on the scene believe that both America and England are pressing for the quickest possible action to end the Japanese war. If that is so, it presumably means that they are using their best arguments to bring mighty Russia into the conflict for a speedy clean-up.

The Jap plan of defense, as seen by many military experts, is fourfold. First, of course, comes a last ditch stand against invasion of the mother country. Their remaining sea fleet—now reduced to a shadow of its former self—and their heavily depleted sky navy will figure in this, perhaps to the last ship and last plane. The Japanese coast undoubtedly is heavily mined and the defenses are formidable. Then we shall have to face the army, and of this veritas, British official military comment-or says:

"The Japanese home army, some 2,000,000, backed by the home guard, will fight literally to the last man—unless (and it is a possibility) hunger and humiliation of failure causes their morale to become brittle."

**Situation Hopeless**  
But that's only part of the story, for Japan's eyes were

bigger than her stomach in the matter of conquests. She banked on the axis to smash the allies, and so she overran everything in sight. The result is that her forces and resources are hopelessly divided and must fight separate actions.

It is clear that the Jap warlords have written off Indonesia as lost, but have ordered their garrisons in the various theaters to fight suicide delaying actions. This involves French Indo-China, the Malay peninsula, Singapore, Sumatra, Java and the small part of Burma still in their hands.

They have abandoned southwestern China, and their strategy for the rest of the continent appears to be this: they will hold strongly along the southeastern coast, especially in the Shanghai theater. They will attempt to defend northern China along the line of the great Yangtze river. And of course they will hang onto Manchuria for dear life, since that is their block-house for defense against Russia.

## Test Classes At Willamette

A special service for the benefit of the department of public welfare, the county health department and other agencies interested in children, will be provided this summer by Willamette university's department of education, under the direction of Dr. Lawrence A. Riggs. The university class in individual intelligence testing will operate a clinic during the balance of the summer semester, a program that will include the testing of more than 175 children. Following the tests, written reports will be prepared on each child which are to be placed in the hands of the appropriate welfare workers to be used in their conferences with the child concerned.

This testing program also provides an opportunity to demonstrate Banet testing procedure for the benefit of teachers and counsellors of young people who seek experience in testing and desire a greater understand-

ing of the use of tests in counselling.

In commenting upon this service, Dr. G. Herbert Smith, president of the university, pointed out that there were few places on the entire Pacific coast where such a program for children is available.

Blowguns up to ten feet long, made of rigid native woods, have been used by primitive savages on Borneo, Palawan, Sumatra, endemic to the Philippine islands, to kill birds and beasts for food.

The Roman Catholic faith was brought to the Netherlands East Indies hundreds of years ago by the Portuguese; and Protestantism later by the Dutch.



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## Novelties In the News

(By the Associated Press)

### 'Or Stand on Your Head'

Harrisburg — A sign at an elevator in a state office building reads "Ring down if you want to go up."

The signal device got out of what recently.

### Boo!

Topeka, Kas.—Light refraction and vivid imaginations caused Topeka residents to see what they described variously as a sagging balloon with dangling anchor chains, a May basket in the sky and a puffy white inner tube 2000 feet above the city.

Sleuths tracked the chimera's string to the quarters of Italian prisoners of war at Winter general hospital and found the object to be a white, three-stick kite.

### Naughty

Cheyenne, Wyo.—Albert, an 18-inch alligator, slipped out of his box in a Pullman car the other night and slithered in, out and around lower berths while eight trainmen coaxed. Albert, who had been purchased in Florida by a train passenger, finally was captured and put in a large bucket of water.

### Lady to the Rescue

Salt Lake City — "Those dumb woman drivers," a pedestrian muttered as he leaped to the curb to escape an oncoming car.

What he didn't know was that Mrs. Grace Hyde, 30, had seen the car start down the hill without a driver, jumped into the front seat and stopped it.

**Tune in Sundays**  
The Old Fashioned Revival Hour  
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