

# The Sentinel

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E. A. YOUNG, Editor  
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## Timely Topics

By E. T. Moore

The mystery of Father Orlemanski's trip to Moscow is being cleared up by piecing together bits of information that have fallen into the hands of the press.

It appears that the trip was engineered, primarily, by Mr. Hillman's CIO political committee, according to the latest press story. The idea was to line up the large Polish-American vote for the Fourth Term. Father Orlemanski thought he was going as a sort of private envoy to promote good feeling between Russia and Poland. Premier Stalin thought Father Orlemanski was a religious and political leader of American Poles who could be persuaded to use his influence in promoting support for Stalin's Polish policies. Mr. Hillman thought the trip would be helpful in lining up the Polish vote for next November. Developments tend to show that Mr. Hillman was the only one of the three to fully understand the real purpose of the trip.

No particular harm has resulted from the episode because Father Orlemanski is a fine Christian gentleman, sincere in his desire for harmonious relationship between Russia and Poland. He was well received and respected by Stalin. The only sour note is that he should have been "used" in this way for political purposes and that the State Department, in full possession of the facts, should have sanctioned the trip. It was very bad taste to say the least.

The Orlemanski visit fits into the general pattern of changing Russian attitude towards America and American institutions. Russia is already laying plans for securing public support in America for her European policies. Her astonishing advocacy of private enterprise, the dissolution of the Communist Party, the disapproval by Communist leader of the Federal policy in the Montgomery Ward case, the declaration against the use of strikes by organized labor are all a part of the general scheme. They are intended to overcome the stigma against Communist policies built up in the public mind by past bitter experiences.

The American public will be very skeptical of the sincerity of this apparent reform. Time will prove how effective it will be in the control of the radical labor leadership. Though readily accepted by the higher-ups, it will be adopted with great difficulty by the rank and file. The habits of a lifetime cannot be changed overnight.

It is also significant that the Fourth Term stand of Mr. Browder has the tacit consent and approval of Moscow. The Communists appear to believe that, though Mr. Roosevelt disavows belief in their conception of government, he is traveling in the general direction they would have him take. He is, therefore, much to be preferred to the rocketeer-chasing Mr. Dewey whom they greatly fear.

Control of the public debt will pay an important part in post-war economy. Strict limitation of Federal expenditures to essentials and the orderly reduction of the national debt load are prerequisites for prosperity. The fallacy of trying to spend ourselves rich has been well proven and a trend towards economy of government has set in. Paradoxically, under the present tax system and disregarding war expenditures, the higher our taxes the greater the public debt. To reverse this incredible financial situation we must balance our budget.

The high tax rate is sure to obstruct the free flow of commerce by lowering the buying power of the average worker. While the war is on, this is not serious because of the lack of consumer goods. But when the war is over and maintenance of the national income depends upon mass production for mass consumption, the buying power of the average citizen will be of vital importance. The reduction of the tax load, as fast as practicable, will be imperative. It can be done only by reducing Federal expenditures.

There is a movement underway to

## TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, June 6, 1924)

By a vote of five to one, the city council Monday evening adopted a resolution overruling the remonstrance filed against the Second street improvement and adopted an ordinance calling for bids on the work.

A Coquille concert band has been organized which gives promise of being a strong advertisement for this city. John E. Ross is the director.

At the regular meeting of Chadwick Lodge, A. F. & A. M. Tuesday evening it was decided that an attempt should be made to have water provided at the Masonic cemetery.

Rationed Again—Due to the phenomenally dry season the City water supply is diminishing fast and it has become necessary to cut down the time allowed for irrigation to two hours a day from 6 to 8 p. m. on and after Saturday, June 7.

It was suggested at council meeting Monday evening that if other quarters could be secured for the library, the fire department would like to use the room above the engine house.

All of Coos county is invited to attend the street dance to be given in Coquille next Tuesday evening, June 18. The dance is for the benefit of the Coquille baseball club.

At 7:30 Sunday evening 627 cars had crossed the Riverton ferry, and

probably a hundred more were carried over by midnight.

The Coquille Auto Wrecking House, a new institution, has opened its doors for business here this week.

Sugar is still declining in the eastern wholesale markets, the price at New York Wednesday being quoted at \$4.90 a hundred.

Mrs. Mary J. Johnson, mother of Piper Johnson on the river road, died at 12:30 last Sunday afternoon.

M. O. Hawkins received word this morning that his mother, Mrs. Atha Ann Hawkins, died at Langlois at eight o'clock today. She was 85 years of age.

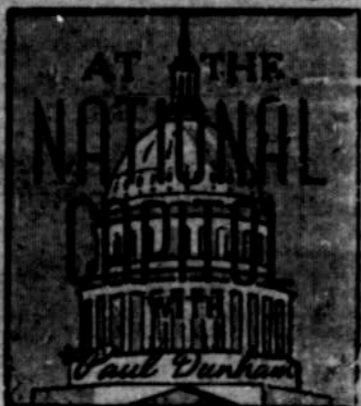
J. E. Paulson and family left Monday in their Packard sedan for an extended trip east, during which they will visit in Chicago, Wisconsin and other points of interest.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Wimer left this morning for Corvallis to be present at the O. A. C. commencement exercises when their son, Fred, graduates from the School of Commerce.

The story which comes from Chicago about the sons of two millionaire merchant princes of that city, who had won honors in the schools there, having indulged in maiming, torturing and killing other boys, one of them the young son of another millionaire, makes one wonder whether we are drifting?

Money. Much long term financing of private business will have to be done through Federal Agencies because of the destruction of private funds by confiscatory taxation. The military will require large sums for the larger Army and Navy and for construction of the many permanent bases needed to service them. But all of these expenditures can result in permanent good to the public and increased annual income if handled properly.

The present attitude of the Congress gives rise to the hope that government is about to be returned to the people where it belongs. Washington will assume its proper role of running interference while private industry carries the ball. If the coming elections sustain the present trends in public opinion there will be a general advance towards restoration of Sattis right and a retreat from Washington regimentation. There is reason to believe this will happen no matter who is elected president.



Washington, D. C., June 8.—Not the least costly of the varied activities connected with the war effort is the office of war information, according to facts revealed during discussion in the house of appropriations for the ensuing year. The total sum requested by OWI was \$64,390,000 and while some paring was done in committee the reduction was not of such size as to alter the unpleasant picture. Aside from the distribution of news in the United States, for which only \$2,264,000 was asked, the work of OWI is devoted to foreign propaganda and the cost of this was stated to be \$59,562,000. The total appropriation asked for is \$20,000,000 more than was expended by OWI last year, the entire increase being for the overseas branch, headquarters of which is in London.

Questioning the value of the foreign propaganda, members of the house pointed out that while OWI propaganda is supposed to be directed to enemy countries, much of the broadcasting is in the English language and would seem to be for the benefit of our allies. There are broadcasts in foreign languages, but they are over short-wave, which is little more than 50 per cent efficient, and, anyway, occupants of enemy countries are forbidden by their governments to listen to short wave broadcasts. Thousands of words are broadcast each month to Algiers, Beirut, Baghdad, Berns, Chungking, Istanbul, Sydney and to all other remote places in the world the people of which are not in position either to help or to hinder the United States.

But the activity of the foreign division of OWI is not confined to

## Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

Washington, D. C., June 3, 1944—

If and when Rear Admiral Husband E. Kimmel and Major General Walter C. Short are tried under court-martial proceedings on charges of dereliction of duty in connection with the attack on Pearl Harbor, it is rather more than likely that some startling revelations will be made. The two officers who commanded our forces in Pearl Harbor at the time of the attack will surely present facts at such a trial to prove they were not at fault and were not unfaithful to their duty. In that event, someone else will probably be indicated by their evidence as having been at fault. In other words, someone erred in not ordering the Pearl Harbor forces on the alert. If Kimmel and Short made this error, they should be found guilty and punished accordingly. If they were simply following orders from higher up—those higher persons should at least be compelled to share the blame.

Court-martial proceedings must be instituted within a stated time. Last December, the Congress extended this limitation six months to June 7th this year. Now the matter is before us again. Both the House and Senate Judiciary Committees have reported resolutions extending the time for one year. The question now is whether the resolution will be amended to compel a court-martial, or passed as reported by committee. Meanwhile

daily broadcasts. It also produces and distributes enormous numbers of leaflets, pamphlets, books, pictures and films for the edification of millions of people who know almost nothing about the United States and care less. And this printed matter covers the most trivial of subjects, such as life in a small town of the United States, pocket calendars, music in the United States, the women of the U. S. A., books of American cartoons, playing fields of America, the valley of the Tennessee, the American cowboy and a multitude of other subjects which have no connection whatever with the prosecution of the war. One representative declared he had it on good authority that OWI had even dramatized a mail-order catalogue. But the appropriation was approved with the small reduction mentioned.

To rid the administration of old-age assistance from red tape and assure payment of an equal sum to all qualified to receive this aid, a bill has been introduced in the house which would make the age requirement of 65 years, American citizenship and residence provisions the only basis for receiving such aid. This covers those persons not included in the list of individuals eligible to social security benefits and would forbid deductions for earnings in casual employment or allotments received from sons and daughters in the armed service. The penalty for non-compliance by any state would be the withholding of match money by the federal government.

The unusual spectacle of a display of women's dresses attracted attention in the house a few days ago when Representative Hartley of New Jersey made a series of charges against lend-lease and United Nations relief and rehabilitation administration. Holding up a dress made of seersucker material, he stated that more than six million of such garments had been sent abroad by these two agencies while American women are denied even less costly dresses. The dress shown by him was, he said, "a finer dress than is carried by any retailer in America today." Mrs. Rogers, a representative from Massachusetts, examined the cloth and remarked that it looked very much like the uniforms worn by marines except for a narrower stripe. The sample of dress for lend-lease bore a label reading "Product of the United States, one of the United Nations," the label was loosely attached and fell off while the garment was being examined.

The recent act of congress in voting pensions to survivors of the civilian employees who built the Panama canal and is expected to serve as a precedent for similar claims by Oregon and Washington men who were engaged in fortifying Wake island when that remote Pacific station was captured by the Japanese. These men were taken to Japan and have been held in concentration camps with only infrequent news of their fate. It may be assumed, however, that the hardships to which they have been subjected could not be less trying than the suffering endured by workers in the disease-infested Panama canal zone and that they are equally deserving of care and compensation. In many cases the families of these prisoners are needy and many of them have abandoned hope of ever being reunited with husbands and fathers.

the two accused officers have waived the time limitation.

In support of the contention that this trial must be delayed until the war is over, it is argued that facts brought out might hurt our war effort—might give aid and comfort to the enemy. On the other hand, key witnesses may die or be killed in action if the trial is too long delayed, thus making it impossible for the accused officers to clear their names.

Then also, whether we like it or not, there is the political angle to the problem. Anti-administration forces believe that evidence presented by Kimmel and Short will be damaging to fourth term aspirations. They might be right. On the other hand, if the New Dealers insist upon delaying the trial, they find themselves in the position of adding fuel to the flame of suspicion that is already burning brightly. It is political dynamite any way you look at it.

The extension of the Price Control Act of 1942 (OPA) is the next important as well as the next controversial piece of legislation to be taken up by the Congress. Tuesday the Senate Banking and Currency Committee reported the bill out (S. 1764) with several amendments. The House Committee completed consideration and reported its bill, H. R. 4941, late Friday.

There never has been any serious consideration of the idea of abolishing the OPA—price control. Nearly everyone recognizes the wartime need for such control. What the Republicans (and a substantial number of Democrats) have been endeavoring to do is refine and improve the act so as to eliminate some of the more flagrant mistakes and administrative abuses of the law.

The amendments reported out by the Senate Committee, in addition to changing the date of expiration of the law to December 31, 1945, include the following: prohibits payment of any subsidies "unless the money required for such subsidies, or sale at a loss, has been approved by Congress for such purpose," authorizing individuals to petition for relief; authorizing Administrator to purchase commodities to use as evidence for violations of price, rent, or rationing regulations; fortified the Administrator with enforcement authorization; specifies a protest procedure, and gives the Emergency Court of Appeals jurisdiction in violation proceedings to enjoin or set aside regulations, orders, or price schedules complained of, or dismiss complaint; defines suit for damages; amends section on review of rationing suspension orders; and proposes to establish an "escalator clause" for cotton products and increase the cost to consumers for clothing.

The report covers 145 pages, over a hundred of which are devoted to a supplemental statement prepared by the OPA, which Senator Taft defined as "nothing but propaganda for OPA."

The House Committee amended the bill changing the expiration date to June 30, 1945, and among other amendments are the following: profits cannot be fixed where such action has no relation to price control; individual adjustments in rents may be made where, due to peculiar circumstances, they are substantially higher or lower than rents generally prevailing; subsidies in effect as of date of enactment may be continued, but no additional subsidies paid except on authorization, by Congress; authority to restrict use of trade and brand names or require grade la-

bellings is denied; unusual costs in production and short crop yields are to be considered in adjustment of maximum prices on fresh fruits and vegetables; specifies protest procedure; Emergency Court of Appeals jurisdiction similar to Senate Bill; provides for a sub-committee of both House and Senate Banking and Currency Committees to meet at all times to consider administration of the act with power to subpoena witnesses, compel production of books, papers and documents and take testimony anywhere in the United States.

The House and Senate will begin consideration of the respective bills very shortly since the legislation must be disposed of prior to the Congressional recess less than three weeks distant.

Remember the Eagles public dance at the Gravel Ford Hall this coming Saturday, June 10. The proceeds will go to the support of the Eagles' candidate for Queen at Coquille's July 4th celebration.

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## TUNE IN



Tonight at 7:15



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