

# The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

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Publishers

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## Fragments of Fact and Fancy

"It is no longer a decent war." Thus did a young soldier of Germany write home to his wife. In Normandy mud he died and his unposted letter was found.

He wrote: "We all wonder how we will ever get out of this hell. We begin to doubt in God. What must we human beings suffer? It is no longer a decent war, it is wholesale murder and butchering of men, a disgrace to the 20th Century. And what for?"

Before any sympathy is felt for this disillusioned follower of Hitler, we must remember the arrogance of the German war when their war was "decent" and it was the helpless people of Warsaw, Rotterdam and London who felt the German bombs; then the war was glorious and the herrenvolk the master race.

In our enlightened country we know there never was, nor ever can be, a "decent war." It is a grim business for our sons abroad and heart-breaking for many at home.

It was ten years ago Tuesday, July 25, 1934, that the Nazis in Vienna shot Chancellor Dollfus to death. However, it is not to be imagined that this was a "shot that rang around the world." Of course this assassination preceded both the Italian-Ethiopian war and the Spanish civil war but the Reichstag had burned in Berlin the year before and that fire enabled the Nazis to gain control of the German government by playing upon the fears of communism by the unsuspecting people. As John Gunther has said: "The fire was discovered at about nine-fifteen on a winter evening back in 1933, but its embers are burning yet."

Someone has recently suggested that potency of the robot bomb may be the greatest peacemaker ever invented. The idea is that, revolutionizing and intensifying warfare, it will cause nations to try to avert war.

That might sound plausible if it were not that the very same idea was advanced some forty years ago when it was first realized that a new invention, the aeroplane, would make possible the bombing of non-combatants and the destruction of whole cities from the air. The argument then was that this death from the skies would be so horrible that man would be compelled to forswear war entirely.

Not long ago the statement was published that the rayon manufacturers preferred government control after the end of the war. With allotments of material limited, evidently the consumer could be victimized and higher prices maintained than would be justified otherwise. Now it is said that large retail groups are afraid of too rapid conversion to peacetime production lest the shoddy or ersatz goods remain unsold on their shelves. Again the consumer would be the loser.

Much has been promised in the way of new materials and scientific achievements to make living more pleasant but, instead, the old theory of scarcity and inferiority is threatened to be maintained. We can never grow rich by limiting our resources and our energies.

"We are but stewards of what we falsely call our own.—Seneca.

If that was the case nineteen hundred years ago, as the old Roman said, it surely is as true today. War-time teaches us that we really own nothing in the material sense. As stewards we contribute to the Red Cross and other charitable and religious organizations, as stewards we return part of our earnings to the government in taxes and by buying bonds. If we are niggardly in the latter respect, heavier taxes will be the answer. As people we must support armies abroad and provide the weapons of victory. As stewards we should gladly give of what we falsely call our own.

Insurance specialist. F. R. Bull.

## Timely Topics

By R. T. Moore

The President's acceptance speech outlines the basis of his campaign. Three salient points stand out. He saved the country from depression. He has defeated the Germans and Japs. His experience and foreign policy are essential to the peace.

All three of these statements are vulnerable to attack by the opposition on the grounds that F. D. R. is merely an opportunist taking credit for world-wide happenings over which he had practically no influence nor control, that he was merely a passenger in the observation car and not the engineer.

The foreign policy element will be heavily stressed and a continuous smoke screen thrown over the bad domestic muddle which now threatens the post-war economy. Mr. Roosevelt will take full credit for the fortunate turn in the war. His campaign will march to the tune of win the war and never mind home affairs. His role is to be that of the great crusader, not greatly differing from that of Woodrow Wilson at the end of World War I. To voters skeptical of this sort of thing after past bitter experience, he will attempt to justify himself on the grounds that a strong paternal influence on European affairs will be the best protection for Uncle Sam's interests and for preserving the peace. And then the role of crusader becomes Mr. Roosevelt. It presents his best side to the public.

The two parties meet head-on in the matter of political interference with the conduct of the war. The Democrats insist upon Mr. Roosevelt running the fighting war. The Republicans think that Marshall, King, MacArthur and company should do it without political interference. The Democrats side-step the Constitution and interpret the President's post in a professional military sense. The Republicans hold to the constitutional provision that the President, nominally the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, is not a professional soldier and should confine himself to selecting competent leaders who are. They think the lives of young Americans are safer in the hands of highly trained military men of proven skill, acting without political interference and under their own initiative. It looks as if the Republicans had the best of the argument in this case.

The President's foreign policy is not doing so well at the moment. The Atlantic Charter has been dropped over-board, quietly so as not to make a splash, by Stalin and Churchill. The much-publicized Teheran Conference has turned out to be another cocktail party. The good neighbor policy in South America has stirred up a hornet's nest. Recognition of the present Italian government was forced on our reluctant State Department by the indomitable Stalin. The provisional French government under DeGaulle was rammed down F. D. R.'s throat by our Allies in spite of his stubborn personal dislike for the Frenchman. Russia is polite but very firm in its stand on monetary policy. After Uncle Sam, Mr. Stalin insists on coming first in the post-war financial battling order, which promises plenty of trouble later.

Mr. Roosevelt has had no luck with Russia to date and seems to be unable to do more than to go along with Mr. Stalin. This lack of power to influence Russia may checkmate the president's ambition to be the Moses of Europe. Certainly it discounts his value at the peace table.

In regard to domestic matters it is comforting to hear that the president will take care of small business, provide jobs for everybody, and clean up the gosh-awful bureaucratic mess in Washington. It will be nice for those of us past middle age to have a few years of peace and comfort after bouncing out of one crisis into another for the past twelve years. But we'll have to take his statements on faith for his progress in this direction prior to the war was imperceptible even after expenditure of incredible sums of the taxpayers' money. There are signs that F. D. R. has had a change of heart in his attitude toward state socialism. Whether this came to pass voluntarily or through political opportunism is not yet clear. Though the Administration does not propose to change the horses in the middle of the stream, it looks as if we are about to witness an attempt by the rider to change his pants, no mean feat while on horseback.

Two significant developments of interest to lumbering communities are the invention of a board and plank-making tool and the use of special wooden containers by our air force in dropping supplies to outposts surrounded by the enemy.

A machine tool manufacturer, who specializes in wood-working machinery, has perfected a contrivance that takes strips of wood, from 1/2 inch to 3 inches thick, and makes boards or planks out of them in one operation. The strips are fed in at one end, machined in tongue and groove pat-

tern, glued and sized to any desired width, then discharged in the center of the machine. Three men are needed to operate it. The strips must be thoroughly dry before using and so only kiln-dried stock is suitable. It is probable that these synthetic boards will be more expensive than sawmill boards but they will be uniform in strength and texture, shrink-proof, and made to order. The possibilities for utilization of ordinary sawmill waste in this fashion are almost limitless.

Our air-force has developed a wooden container, bound with special steel wire, that can be dropped from an airplane as high as 10,000 feet without parachute and without damage to its contents. The container is stoutly built of any soft wood or plywood and its contents are packed in excelsior or similar material. The secret of its astounding ability to stand the terrific impact is the texture of the steel binding wire. The latter must be of precise manufacture with just the right amount of tensile strength to act as a powerful shock-absorbing spring. The formula for the wire is a military secret that will be available to the public in post-war.

Even articles as fragile as glass containers of blood plasma are dropped without damage from speeding airplanes. Where the use of parachutes resulted in the tip off of location to the enemy and extreme inaccuracy of aim, the dropping of these containers can be done with great precision and without detection by the foe. There is the added advantage of low cost, only about one-eighth as much as the parachute type. The possibilities in the commercial use of this container for the transport of fast freight are tremendous.

Both of these interesting devices are further steps in the progress towards the greater utilization of our forests. Adding to them the advances made in the manufacture of plywood, plastic, alcohol, charcoal, and the chemical derivatives which are by-products of these processes, we are promised a vast expansion in forest industries after the war. The depletion of virgin forest stands will more than be compensated by the greater utilization of surviving stands of timber and the perpetuation of the lumber industry will be assured. The potential new industries will go far toward guaranteeing employment to present personnel and the creating of thousands of new jobs. The war has presented us with much of the wood technology painfully built up by the Germans after World War I. We will use it for the more noble purpose of bringing happiness and prosperity instead of brutal murder and destruction.

### Two Cows Under Different Philosophies of Government

Have you got two cows? According to a reader who signs himself "B. A. M.," here's what happens to you and your two cows under different forms of government:

Socialism . . . you give one of the two cows to your neighbor.

Communism . . . you give both cows to the government and in return it gives you some of the milk.

Fascism . . . you keep the two cows and give the milk to the government.

Capitalism . . . you sell one cow and buy a bull.

Nazism . . . the government shoots you and keeps both cows.

New Deal . . . you shoot one cow, keep the other, throw the milk away and apply for relief.

Electric Fence Units, \$14.75 and up. Will work on 110-volt line, or hot shot battery, or automobile battery. Also Hot-Shot Batteries for sale. Geo. F. Burr Motor. 18ts

DO YOUR WAR DUTIES  
Cheerfully!  
Buy more War Bonds - and cheerfully attend to other home-front duties. Let's get this war won quickly!

SUNNY BROOK  
WHISKEY  
"CHEERFUL AS ITS NAME"

National Distillers Products Corporation  
New York

# Facts you should know about First National Bank Emergency Loans



1. You may make a loan for any worthwhile purpose...

2. The cost is low...

3. You repay monthly over a year's period...

4. Loans made in any amount from \$50 to \$1000...

5. You establish your bank credit for future use.

Any Branch

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PORTLAND

The First National Bank on the Pacific Coast