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THE DICTATORSHIP IDEA

The idea of dictatorship is spreading over the world. In all countries, regardless of their history of democratic processes, the people are worshipping a leader. Hitler, himself, was not a dictator at the time he took over the reins from Hindenberg. He remodeled the state, provided jobs for all workers and told the then down-trodden Germans that they were the salt of the earth. He preached that he was their only hope of the German people and by an excess of emotional language, made them believe it. When he had the power he became a dictator.

If the idealism of the two fighting factions of the world can be sorted out from the commercial, the racial, the religious background that divides the contestants it would divide the dictators and their enemies on the basis of their attitude toward the individuals of the state.

The dictators elevate the state above the people; in a dictatorship the people live for the state. The nations fighting the dictators are, in general, followers of the theory that the individual is superior to the state in that government is made by and for the people.

It is not necessarily democracy, although that term is often used to express the idea. Certainly not all the nations opposing Hitler are democracies. Few of them are, under the stress of war. Their rulers rule by decree, but that power will lapse with the declaration of peace. In a dictatorship that power will never cease.

All this is fundamental. Yet, our decision as to whether we will fight in this war or not, must be based on our belief in the theory of the individual to be an individual and not a pawn of the government.

The people of this nation are ill-prepared to make such a decision. To as large an extent as has been possible they have given their rights as individuals over to their government, have asked that the government take more of their rights in exchange for a promised security. We have, in recent years, come to lean on the golden promises of one man until we are weakened.

Now, and partly because of this, we are confronted with a momentous decision: one that means life or death to many and financial difficulties for all. a decision because they do not have the information on which to properly base a decision. Those in authority withhold that information, an act that in itself is an act of dictatorship.

The American people are not afraid to fight. They have been in many serious wars. They are not afraid to face the problem of going to war. They are not afraid to work for their ideals.

If there is danger that the theory of individual rights is in danger of being crowded off the earth we will go to defend it, any where, any time. We want to know about it.

Fine sounding words from our leaders about defending democracy is not convincing. If we conclude we are in danger let us have an end to strikes and lock outs that block defense, let us have an end to profits, let us put aside laws that were designed to reform long established practices until we can be normal again. Those who insist on forcing new theories onto the people are doing as much to block our war effort as any one else.

Unless we are to follow the governmental doctrine we are opposing the people must have complete information, come to a decision and let nothing stand in the way of its fulfillment.

No one in the county has a better opportunity to display a flower garden and surely, no one, has a more colorful one to display than Truman Strong, whose tulip beds just northeast of town attract many visitors.

JOE PETERS' ARM

The county, especially its farmers, has one asset that receives little recognition. Yet, it has often accounted for as much as 25 per centum of the wheat income of the county.

We refer to Joe Peters' right arm.

Hours on end Joe Peters sits at a desk and, with fine good humor, swings his arm in wide circles as he pens his name on numerous pages already properly filled with the figures and dates that signify compliance to the agricultural powers that be. From offices in Corvallis and Washington D. C., where the winds do not blow, nor the frosts penetrate, the machines send out the checks.

Joe Peters is a healthy looking lad who, barring accidents, should be able to go on for years bringing payments into the county with sweeps of his good right arm. Yet, with money coming in on nearly every mail, this seems an appropriate time to recognize the value of that arm to the county.

Perhaps this may seem to certain outlanders an odd way for a county to obtain so goodly a part of its sustenance. There is plenty justification for it. All over the land people are being fed and clothed and entertained through the services of good right arms. As a nation we go for that stuff. A few, or a good many, dollars from the great white father in Washington D. C. makes us realize we are citizens of a magnanimous government as the payment of taxes to the government made our forefathers realize their civic duties.

Cynics say there may be taxes connected with the funds that come from Joe Peters arm. Perish the thought. Happy Days Are Here Again. We have Joe Peters arm.

In Other Days

From the Observer, May 2, 1902
 Dr. Jack Dailey was in from his catfish farm this week, proud of the beef displayed in the City Market Monday, a grass fed heifer 30 months old, raised by him, that dressed nearly 1000 pounds.

The coming Sherman county horse fair, booked for July 4-5 will be a benefit to everybody. R. G. Case, Wasco is secretary. The south bound Columbia Southern train ran over a man lying between the rails about a mile north of Kent Monday. No identification was made.

Dr. Marie Goffin and Miss Ella Anderson leave for Washington on the 12th to be gone about three weeks.

From the Observer, May 10, 1912
 O. A. Ramsey and daughter were planting corn early last Monday morning for future roasting ears.

Neri Moffitt has sown 300 acres to Kaffir corn, Milo Maize, lima beans and field corn on the point and many other crops are being tried there.

Moro farmers are now shipping 125 gallons of cream to Portland per week which brings in \$600 per month.

From the Observer, May 12, 1922
 Last Tuesday afternoon while calling around town Rev. H. G. Harrison lost a watch charm engraved with the letters C. E. He is anxious to recover same.

Moro will put on a race meet June 2 and 3 under the auspices of the American Legion. There will also be a celebration on the Fourth of July.

Last Sunday the two churches exchanged audiences for the day instead of the usual exchange of ministers.

Mrs. T. C. Lee gave an at home for 41 babies on the cradle roll last Friday.

Moro Lodge No. 113, I. O. O. F.

Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in the I. O. O. F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us.

Joe Ritner N.G. Vernon Miller, Sec.

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116

Moro, Oregon Meets 2d & 4th Tues day of each month. Visiting members welcome.

Helen Martin N. G. Florence Johnston, Sec.

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A-F & A-M

Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings of each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us.

Wendell Balsiger W.M. C. V. Belknap, Secy.

Bethlehem Chapter, No. 75, O. E. S.

Moro, Oregon Meets Every Second and Fourth Thursdays in each Month. Visiting members Invited.

Patricia Woods Sec. Dorothea Moore, W.M.

Moro Couple Flying East For New Vehicles

Mr. and Mrs. J. K. McKean left Thursday night from Pendleton on the eastern plane for Chicago on their way to Detroit where they will take delivery on a new car. From there they will go down into Ohio and get a new truck and come home taking time out for a little sight seeing.

Mrs. Roy Belshe will spend Mother's Day in Yakima with her daughter, Mrs. W. H. Williams and her family.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Powell, Charles Powell, Mrs. Lena Searcy, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Johnson, Mrs. L. L. Peetz, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Bannan and Roy Powell were in The Dalles last Saturday to attend the Wasco County Pioneer's association picnic. Roy Powell was elected to be second vice-president of the association for the coming year, at the annual meeting held May 4th.

B. L. Thompson of Pasadena, California, is here to visit with relatives in this county. He is a brother of A. C. and N. W. Thompson.

LeRoy Wright left Wednesday night for Spokane to be gone several days.

Sherman county teachers met Monday night at the M. E. church in Wasco and held a social evening, celebrating, in a way, the approaching end of school.

The government parity checks began coming in to the county this week with the receipt of \$21,900 out of the total of nearly \$170,000.

Williams Cauters and wife are leaving soon to begin work with a state road oiling crew that will be in many parts of the state throughout the summer months.

George Updegraff has bought the May Belshe house in town and expects to remodel it to suit his needs and move into it this summer. He will also have some work done on his office building down town.

The L. L. Peetz house is getting a new coat of paint this week.

Last Saturday the school band members were driven to Condon by parents and friends to enter the Columbia band contest. Playing was not competitive. The Moro band played in the forenoon and later participated in the mass band numbers. A picture show and dance ended the day.

Marion McKee returned Wednesday evening from an inspection trip around the northwestern part of the state for the drug board.

E. A. Amidon was over from his farm near Goldendale the first of the week.

Fred Beardsley was home for the first of the week, well pleased with life in the army. The National Guard boys were given a three day furlough.

Lloyd Henrichs, now a lieutenant in the army has been assigned to a Field Artillery company for permanent service.

Raymond Henrichs and wife were down from Sisters last week end to see Mrs. Jessie Henrichs who came home from the hospital last week feeling much better.

The Missionary Society will meet Wednesday, May 14, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Russel Hollinshead. This will be the Mother's Day memorial offering, with Mrs. Delpha Ramsey as leader. Visitors welcome.

Statehouse Gossip

(Continued from page one)
 counties the state tax commission started the work of appraising individual properties in 1929. So far these appraisers have "sampled" practically every county in the state. During 1939 and 1940 these appraisers covered approximately 25,000 properties ranging from as few as 20 in some of the smaller counties up to as many as 5000 in the larger counties.

Some opposition on the part of county assessors was experienced by the commission in the early years of this work but now the cooperation of the commission is welcomed by the assessors with more requests for the state ap-

praisers coming in than the commission is able to meet with its small force now numbering nine full time appraisers.

The increased demand for skilled workers in industry is making it easier to place parolees from the state prison in good jobs, according to Fred Finsley, state parole director. Whereas previously placement of parolees was confined largely to farm jobs now many jobs are opening up for men with experience Finsley said.

A sharp increase in traffic fatalities during April all but wiped out the gains previously recorded this year in the traffic safety campaign. Deaths due to traffic accidents last month were up 36.6

percent over the fatality record for April, 1939, according to reports compiled by Secretary of State Snell.

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