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APRIL 20, 1944

Those who would trade freedom for security are deserving of neither.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN

Harry Truman has been thrust into the presidency of this country at a time that will make it difficult for him to show his abilities to the best advantage.

A great deal of doubt was expressed about the qualifications of Truman last fall during the election when it was apparent that the head of the ticket would not finish his term.

There is nothing in the personal history of the new president that indicates that he will endeavor to continue the effort to make the executive department ascendant over both the legislative and judicial.

In international affairs the new president is ill informed. He has not been called to attend the conferences overseas or at home.

President Truman has a rare opportunity. Although he was chosen by Sidney Hillman of CIO, he was second choice.

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE? In these days of testing citizens for beliefs of all kinds and of all sorts of tests to find out one's reactions to everything from burned toast to double features, it seems odd that no one has conducted a test to discover the average American's concept of government.

Some careful listening will cause one to hear all sorts of ideas about government expounded. Many such ideas are strictly fascist, some go in for commoner ideals of dictatorship, others are socialists and a part of the populace, thankfully, expound democracy of varying types.

It means that some long haired who cause wars...

or scant haired professor of public thought could write a series of questions that would test the so called average American and find out how many believers in democracy we actually have.

Such a one would be Socialist in strongest degree. Communicative in some matters with a tinge of Fascism in case it was found advisable for the government to get tough.

It is not too much to hope that some would rate a straight D for democracy, with no qualifying additions. These would be those who feel that the individual is the proper unit of society and that the government is built for him.

These days when we bandy names for different kinds of government so easily it would be an excellent project for our thought testing institutes now devoid of an election to prophesy. It would be most interesting to learn how many people think the government should do anything asked of it by any pressure group.

DAVE MCKELVEY

When the spirit of any of us ventures beyond this mortal coil something goes out of the life of those who remain and occasionally such a passing seems to definitely terminate an era, to mark the end of a way of life.

In the days when life was rough and men were tough and each depended on his own fists or his own wits for his place in his society Dave McKelvey was a man among men. He was said to have been as quick and lithe as a panther and to have a punch in either hand that required no second.

There were others of his stripe in those days, men who walked any street confident that they could take care of themselves without benefit of police, the law, the customs or the manners. No emergency dismayed them, no event nor man made them fearful.

They often lived on the coarsest of food, beans, potatoes, bacon, sometimes seasoned with the fruit of the corn and despite the prattings of the nutritionists these old men of another time lived on and on, hale and hearty at seventy, still living and liking it.

In these effete times beds have sheets on them instead of being woolly, unwashed blankets covered with canvas; men work an eight hour day instead of until the finish of the job; a man can hardly take a drink of whiskey without some woman pouring water in it; there's a bathtub in nearly every house and the old, rough days are history.

Life is softer but no fairer, quieter but no kinder, easier but less stimulating.

So-long, Ernie Pyle. You put the emphasis on war where it belongs, on the foot soldier who does the real fighting, not on the brass of the officers nor on the leaders.

PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE

The talk about actually giving the Philippines their independence does not seem to have abated, even during the period of war in which we were fighting to regain them.

The independence idea came from American sugar growers and refiners who would like to have a tariff put on Philippine sugar in place of having it come in duty free. Naturally the more political ambitious natives accepted the notion with glee.

The Japs seemed to like the idea, too. At least they had enough Japs on the islands to take complete control with little difficulty.

Major United States policy is wrapped up in the independence of the Philippines now. We hope to abolish Japan as a great power for a generation or two and thus make the islands safe from aggression from that quarter. The birth rate in Japan indicates that there will be Japs to migrate to the Philippines, nevertheless. Russia, as expected, may fight Japan and demand Pacific ocean outlets for her trouble. That means that the islands can be a means of getting into trouble with Russia at some later date, when the present love making is over.

It appears, therefore, that if we abandon the islands now by giving them complete independence we must also bring our line of influence in the Pacific eastward to Midway and the Marshall Islands and also abandon Guam, the Bonins and other islands we have recently captured. We must be prepared to get completely out or stay entirely in the western part of the Pacific ocean.

It may be good policy to get out. And it may not be. If an aggressive Russia builds a large navy and fortifies islands within flight distance of Hawaii or if Japan becomes strong again and does the same thing we may have to fight another war. Letting the Philippines go or keeping them should be the cue to how far we are going to try to exert our influence in the Pacific.

There are good Americans who are getting very tired of fighting wars to capture lands we do not want for people about whom we care little. If we are going to abandon the western Pacific our Marines who are buried on Iwo Jima and other islands for which they fought might well ask why they died. If we are kicking Japan only to rehabilitate and equip a bunch of islands for her to take over later, we are not doing much for ourselves on the western front.

This is written on the assumption that the Philippines will never be able to defend themselves against any of the several possible aggressors. If we must defend the islands we should retain sovereignty over them and, if there be economic advantage in that let the American people who make the sacrifices of war enjoy that advantage. If we are going to get out of that part of the Pacific, and abandon our position there, we can give the islands independence.

Washington Column

Continued from Page One ants in attaining ownership of the land they work. It has been generally believed here that the housing authority was on its way out and that congress would deny it further financing after the war ends, but those at the head of the agency obviously have other plans.

The proposed activities would be undertaken until after the war, of course, and justification for the program is sought in the need which will then exist for providing employment opportunities and giving a boost to the building industry.

With the loss of 200,000 workers from American farms during the past year, as stated by Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard, it would not seem that the importation of 107,000 Mexican and other farm laborers will be sufficient to maintain crop production at the 1944 level. Mexican workers have been generally willing and efficient, according to reports, but not so much may be said for the Jamaicans and Bahamians who were brought into southern states last year. And the situation is made even less encouraging by the continued scarcities in farm machinery, by floods and the freezing temperatures which prevailed over a large part of the mid-west during the spring planting season.

In Other Days

From the Observer, April 20, 1906 E. E. Barnum is the proud father of a boy born this week at the farm home.

Walter Perry will today take civil service examination in Portland, for Railway Mail service.

Base Ball Sunday, Wasco vs Moro, on the Moro diamond at 1 o'clock sharp. Grass Valley Reds and Antelope "play ball" Sunday on the Grass Valley diamond.

Page says \$1.25 per hundred is all he is asking for spuds, at the Moro City Market.

From the Observer, April 21, 1916 A new furnace and heating plant is being installed by the Bank of Moro.

A wrestling match has been arranged for Saturday night, at the opera house after the show, between Frank Barks of McMinnville and Bob May of Moro.

John Johnson died at the family home south of Moro early Tuesday morning. Mr Johnson was one of the early pioneer farmers of Sherman county, but later years has suffered much from asthma.

School will close on May 6th. Since the May 8th grade examination will be held on the 4th and 5th, no closing program will be prepared. The 6th-grade pupils will write on Physiology at that time.

From the Observer, April 23, 1926

Miss Mabel King and Edwin S. Mercer were married at Ventura, California, April 14th. Miss King is a former resident of Sherman county and is a sister of Glenn King residing north of Grass Valley.

April 15th, 1926, was the hottest April day recorded at Moro experiment station since 1909, when the government instrument recorded 83 degrees.

Ben, 6-year old son of R. B. White, fell off the top of Lone Rock last Monday afternoon receiving a severe shaking up and several minor body bruises in his 25-foot tumble.

Schools at Grass Valley have closed this week because of an epidemic of scarlet fever.

People's Column

A letter from George DeMosa, now in the Pacific islands with the Seabees, has been received by his parents, Mr and Mrs John DeMosa. Just a few lines for you while I have a little time on hand. I am still on the dozer, working the graveyard shift. I'll bet you'd never guess who I saw today. I ran into Bill McDonald (Wasco county 4-H winner) who is right close to us and running a bull dozer, too, a D8.

The weather has cleared up and it is pretty warm now. We have a small sprinkle about every 24-hours which cools things off a bit. I don't know just what to say, the same thing as the rest, the newness wears off and then there isn't much to say.

We have our area pretty well started. There is an awful lot of work for all hands. The area is starting to take shape, though. Find out where Frank Sargs and Elmer Barzee are. Bill was wanting to know about them.

George MM-2c 28Sp. USNCB Co. A 1 Fleet Postoffice San Francisco.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING

NOTICE: There will be a meeting of the County Board of Equalization of Sherman County, Oregon, at the Court House, Moro, Oregon on the second Monday in May, that being the 14th day of May, 1945, to publicly examine the Assessment rolls, correct all errors in valuation; descriptions of lands or other property assessed by me, and it shall be the duty of persons interested to appear at the time and place appointed (appearance is by petition). All petitions must be in writing and verified by the oath of the applicant and filed with the board within the first week it is by law required to be in session.

Charles A. Ruggles County Assessor

SHOE REPAIR FERCY THOMPSON MAIN STREET, MORO Work Done Well and Quickly

WAKE UP, AMERICA! Will Russia Fight Japan? As Debated by Dr. John F. Normano Director of Studies, Research Bureau for Post-War Economics; Author of Forthcoming Book, "Spirits of Russian Economics"

MR. HALL OPENS: Russia is potentially the most powerful country in the world and great as are her interests in Europe where they extend from the Baltic to the Black Sea, Russia is essentially an Asiatic power. Having abandoned communism or a system of State control of all natural resources and tools, Russia has astounded the world by her industrial progress and her military might. Every body pays tribute to the rise of Russia as a new super power. There is no perceptible difference between the aspirations of Peter the Great and Stalin, except that the latter has the power to attain them. Once Germany is defeated, why should Stalin hesitate to join with the U.S. and Great Britain in smashing Japan and avenging Port Arthur? It is already abundantly clear that Russia intends to make its voice heard in no uncertain tones in the European settlement. It is even more to her interest to make it heard in the Asiatic settlement. Her stakes in northern Iran and western China are enormous. The virtually controls the North Pole over which passes the shortest air route from Asia to the New World. Once Germany is beaten it is my conviction Russia will join in the war against Japan... and play a leading role in post-war settlements in Asia.

DR. NORMANO OPENS: For historical and geographic reasons, it is axiomatic that Russia has vital interests in checking and preventing Japanese aggression. Their interests fully coincide with our interests and our Allies. The U.S.S.R. is generally described as realistic and realistic statesmanship recognizes Russia's interests in checking and preventing Japanese aggression will be taken care of without her direct participation. The U.S. and her Allies have to finish up the job of bringing Japan to her knees. The U.S. is no longer thinkable as a great power without achieving it. The British Empire cannot afford to have her Asiatic possessions in the Japs' hands. Rejuvenated France, the sober Dutch, growing Australia, New Zealand, would not be satisfied with less than Japan's complete defeat. Soviet thinking takes this into account. It does not see any specific reason for opening a second front. Immense Soviet losses in the war make the government especially economical about additional sacrifices particularly in the Asiatic regions where they have built up new reserves of industrial power. There is no doubt in my mind that Russia wishes Japan's defeat will assist up to a point but will stop at active participation. Russia is not afraid she will not be heard in future Far Eastern settlements because of non-belligerency. The new diplomatic and military strength of Russia, and the yet untouched Far East reserves are strong enough to command respect.

DR. NORMANO CHALLENGES: The rise of Russian nationalism doesn't mean abandonment of communism. Russia is everchanging, but she is satisfied her economy is the best for the full development of her industrial resources. Russia is developing a socialistic-not a zoological-nationalism. If it is a question of a general Asiatic settlement—not just one with Japan—Russia will probably use all her resources to achieve on her Asiatic frontiers the same security she is seeking in Europe. Russia has matters to settle with Turkey—has vital interests in Iran, The Strait Union (and the U.S.) and is very happy about British-Indian quarrels and highly disapproves Chiang Kai-shek's national and international policies. Of course, Mongolia, Manchuria and Korea are border problems for the Soviet Union.

MR. HALL REPLIES: "Communism" has become a fetish word, just like "heretic" was in the 16th Century. Even Lenin never tried to establish pure communism as Marx and Engel understood it, and although Stalin may retain the name, Russia has abandoned communism for nationalism. The only way Russia can achieve her Asiatic aims is, as Dr. Normano says, by using all her resources and throwing all her weight into the scales. If that doesn't mean going to war with Japan, then words have lost their meaning. Just as soon as the war in Europe is over, Russia will join the U.S. and Great Britain in smashing Japan. Nothing else makes sense.

DR. NORMANO REPLIES: I feel Russia would prefer participation in a continental Asiatic settlement to fighting Japan for local settlement in the Far East. She takes the standpoint her sacrifices in Europe are disproportionate to Anglo-Saxon sacrifices in the Japanese war. Unless the relations of the United Nations with China are improved, Russia will probably not move to fight Japan. If the situation continues with U.S. successes in the Pacific paralleled by Chinese defeats on the continent and if the war against Japan threatens to develop into a continental war, the United Nations will have to make substantial concessions to get the help of Russia—Asia's only continental power.

KEEP FAITH WITH THEM! BUY MORE WAR BONDS

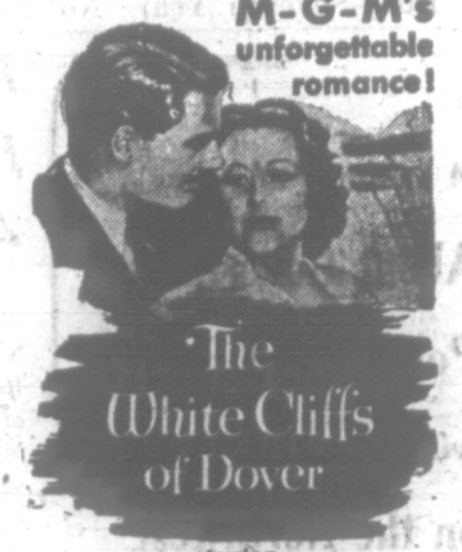
Loans for HOME REPAIRS! DISCUSS YOUR PROBLEM WITH US The Dalles Branch United States National Bank

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh The Cuppers Have a Dream Come True Dee and Jane Cuppers used to say that as soon as the children had flown the roost, they were going off together on a second honeymoon... take a trip... or rent an apartment in the city. So after little Sue got married, I stopped in to say goodbye. Dee was sitting in his favorite chair before the fire, sipping a mellow glass of beer. And Jane was busy with her knitting, just as always. They looked about as restless as the tabby cat on the hearth. "Jane and I figured," Dee explained, "that you couldn't beat being at home alone together, with our own things—talking and reading—enjoying my glass of beer, and Jane her buttermilk—living and letting live. I guess you can't beat home!" From where I sit, Dee's had a better dream come true—the dream of peace and tolerance and understanding that we all are fighting for, and praying for, today. Joe Marsh No. 113 of a Series Copyright, 1945, United States Brochure Foundation

GRASS VALLEY THEATRE

THIS WEEK SATURDAY — SUNDAY MATINEE, SUNDAY 2:30 P.M.

No Greater Love! M-G-M's unforgettable romance!



IRENE DUNNE A CLARENCE BROWN Production with ALAN MARSHAL

Directed by CLARENCE BROWN Produced by SIDNEY FRANKLIN Screen Play by CLAUDE WELLS, Joe Lando and George Froeschel. Based on the Poem "The White Cliffs" by Alice Duer Miller

Paramount News AND CARTOON

NEXT WEEK TUESDAY — WEDNESDAY

THRILL TO THE GREATEST OF ALL LOVE STORIES! With two romantic stars of their very finest!



with LUCILE WATSON - VIVIAN FIELD BURNETT - ROBERT TAYLOR A MERRY LEIGH PRODUCTION - Screen Play by S. H. Belzoni, Hans Rameau and George Froeschel - Based on the Play "Waterloo Bridge" by Robert E. Sherwood - Directed by MERVYN LLOYD Produced by SIDNEY FRANKLIN With

News of the Day AND CARTOON

NEXT WEEK THURSDAY — FRIDAY

HITLER... murders his own heir GOERING... morphine maniac HIMMLER... double-crosses the Führer



THE GREATEST GANGSTER PICTURE OF THEM ALL!

The Hitler Gang Executive Producer B. G. DeSYLVA

Grass Valley Theatre—Phone 101 DOORS OPEN AT 7:15 P. M. SHOW STARTS AT 8:00 P. M. ADMISSION ADULTS 40c.; CHILDREN 20c. MATINEE SUNDAYS, 2:30 P.M.