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EDITORIALS

WHO'S GOING TO SACRIFICE WHAT?

The American people, driven by the need for military security, must build a military establishment costly beyond all precedents. An incredible proportion of the national income must be taken from the pockets of the people and diverted to government. All of us will have fewer luxuries. All of us must conserve. All of us must sacrifice.

That is clear enough and reasonable enough. But it has become tragically plain that a very substantial portion of the American people have the idea that the other fellow should make most, if not all of the sacrifices. It's the other fellow's standard of living which should suffer, not their own. It's the other fellow who should pay the bill and do the work, while they go on much as they did before.

Certain influential segments of labor, for instance, demand still higher pay, shorter hours, excessive extra pay for overtime, and other special privileges and prerogatives for the workman, despite the fact that pay is now the highest and the work-week the shortest in history. Their argument is that industry must sacrifice more of its profits in the interests of labor, while the worker grows fat off the national emergency.

A certain segment of industry follows a similar course. Even as it makes profits of an unusual size, it works to reduce the share that goes to labor, and it works to get more bounty for itself out of government in one way or another. It too believes in sacrifice—so long as the other fellow does it.

Those who have gone on government relief as a career favor sacrifice, too—so long as it doesn't touch relief appropriations. The government, under the guise of "relief," still pays out millions for loaf-raking, boondoggling and other completely non-productive activities. Powerful influences demand that not one nickel of this waste be eliminated, no matter how much others sacrifice to pay it, or how dire the menace the country faces.

The professional politicians talk much of sacrifice, in noble words. But it is a rare politician who is willing to sacrifice one thin dime of patronage that might cost a vote, to support a principle. Money still goes out for farm relief schemes foredoomed to failure—for unnecessary tax-built and tax-subsidized government electric plants, for government credit schemes of all kinds, and for a thousand and one purposes which are in no way a true function of government, but which are prolific sources of votes and power. The self-seeking hand of politics handicaps a real defense program which would get maximum results with a minimum waste of time and money.

Who is going to sacrifice what? That is the question that America faces today, if national security is to be a reality, not a mirage. The answer is plain. All must sacrifice, all must contribute their full share. The other fellow isn't going to do it for us. Selfish interests now at play in America, whether they be in labor, industry, or government, are the real fifth-columnists within our gates.

DON'T WASTE SWEATED DOLLARS

The war abroad, which has brought with it the need for gigantic military expenditures here to assure our security in a belligerent world, has drastically changed the tax situation. It has delayed the opportunity to balance the budget and reduce the debt.

But it will be a tragic thing for this country if the dire necessities of the time lead to a "Why worry about it" attitude on the part of the public in regard to spending. The very fact that untold billions must now be appropriated for military purposes makes it all the more essential that every penny be spent with meticulous care. The very fact that we are

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Russell, in the Los Angeles Times.

starting the defense program under the greatest handicap of debt in our history makes it all the more essential that the inefficient, wasteful and non-productive hand of the professional politician be kept out of the public treasury.

There are three definite "musts" when it comes to financing the arms program. First, the tax base must be broadened so that a larger proportion of our people pay direct taxes. A start has been made in that direction. Second, taxes generally must be increased. And a small start has been made in that direction as well. Third, and equally important, inflated government costs which created our back-breaking peace-time debt, must be pared to the bone. They continue to exceed the government's income by a wide margin, and the present emergency expenditures must be piled on top of them. Congress has done little or nothing about that.

In an election year, we are used to politically-minded congresses dodging issues whenever possible, for fear of alienating votes. We cannot afford that kind of a congress now. To play conscienceless politics today, is to play with America's destiny—and with America's very existence as a democratic power. Congress never faced a greater duty—and it never had better chance to serve the nation it represents.

"TATERS, LASSES AND CORNBREAD"

"Food Marketing in New England," a publication recently started by the First National Stores of Somerville, Massachusetts, makes this observation: "The food industry has traveled a long way from the days of pork and 'taters, lasses and cornbread, and an orange once a year in the Christmas stocking."

We've seen startling progress in all branches of industry during this epochal century. But it's doubtful if any industry has shown a more progressive spirit than retail distribution. Think back to the run-of-the-mill store of forty years ago on which the small town had to depend for service. Remember the iron stove and the cracker barrel? Remember the bored "take it or leave it" attitude on the part of a proprietor who knew you had to take what he offered or go without? Remember the small stocks of goods and the wilted vegetables? Remember the lack of sanitation and the unattractive merchandise displays?

Compare that old-time "emporium" to the modern retail establishment of today, either chain-owned or independently owned. The shelves are loaded with every kind of product imaginable. Competition has equalized prices and has also forced the stores to better their service, to do more advertising, and modern refrigeration keeps perishables in A-1 condition. The luxuries of yesterday have become the necessities of the present. The worker has a better job and the farmer a better market. And the extension of modern merchandising methods to the little towns has kept at home business that otherwise would be going to the big cities.

Here's one field where times have certainly changed—and for the better.

We are sorry that we missed two of our local boys who are in the service of our country. Bob Palmer joined the Navy soon after he graduated from high school and Charles Lawrence, whose parents were former residents of Central Point, but now live in Medford, is in the National Guard.

Shakespearean Festival Big Success

ASHLAND, August 14—When Oregon's sixth annual Shakespearean Festival closes here this Saturday evening, the ghost of William Shakespeare will have seen the most successful season since the origination of this unique enterprise.

From both an attendance and presentation standpoint, the 1940 repertoire will have topped previous seasons. Eight days of "Shakespeare under the stars" will have been given and from the tone of the reception, it has not been enough. Packed houses have been experienced in the outdoor civic Elizabethan theatre and already, tentative plans are being discussed for the 1941 season.

The able direction of William David Cottrell and the elaborate costuming of Lois M. Bowmer are responsible for the success of the current season. Cottrell, a veteran of Shakespearean productions, took over the directorial reins this year and has emphasized the bright side of Shakespeare's classics. Lois Bowmer's costumes have been even more elaborate than previous years and have brought

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wide-spread acclaim from all those attending the productions.

Friday and Saturday nights are the final days of the Festival. To be shown are "The Comedy of Errors" and "As You Like It," the latter on Saturday evening. Along with "The Merry Wives of Windsor" and "Much Ado About Nothing," each play will have been given twice.

Already, some of the out-of-state participants are making plans to return to their homes after two months of intensive training. Richard Farmer will re-join the cast of "The Drunkard" in Los Angeles; Delmar Solem will return to Tracy, Minn., and a school teaching post. Doug Hubbard will return to dramatic circles in Spokane; Harriet Uecker will go south to Hollywood again while Harry Moses will return to his home in Washington, D. C.

LOCALS

Miss Thelma Moore of Medford is spending her vacation with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Russ Moore at Lake Creek. Miss Moore is book-keeper at Mann's.

Kenneth Wyatt left Tuesday evening for Portland where he will be at the Shiro Clinic for treatments on his leg. Kenneth made the trip alone but will be with his aunt in Portland.

Canadian thistles are threatening to take the Lake Creek country. The upper creek is a regular bed of thistles, the seeds fall into the creek and are carried down into the irrigation ditches and scattered into the fields.

Evelyn Whitmore of Eugene was a guest at the Billy Abbott home last week. Miss Whitmore and Mrs. Abbott were schoolgirl friends.

Wanda Faye Cuesman is working at the Community Hospital in Medford.

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Mr. and Mrs. A. R. McCoy and nephew and wife of Ojai, California, after a few days visit at the Charles McCoy home, left for Diamond Lake to spend two weeks. Later they plan to return here for a longer visit at the McCoy home.

It has been reported that Morris Dow will visit his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Beebe about the first of September.

Mr. A. C. Austin marketed some fine veal in Faber Market this week.

Rev. Luther and family are expected home from a two week vacation spent in California.

Joe Collier and family from Klamath Falls visited Mr. Collier's sister Mrs. Gene Blackford and family Sunday.

Harry Blaine and Bruce called on friends in Gold Hill Sunday.

Mrs. Katherine Schmidt and small son Robert of Medford visited Mrs. Dorothy Middleton at the Edward Jones home Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dade Territt of Yreka visited Mr. Territt's mother, Mrs. Margaret Territt Sunday.

Mrs. Gertrude Treichler Boswell of Compton, was entertained at the Harry Mark home on Portland ave., Medford, with a breakfast party. A group of friends including Mrs. Charles Taylor, Jr. were guests. Mrs. Boswell is house guest at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. George Treichler.

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