

Southern Oregon Miner

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"THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE"

SENATOR BORAH HAS DISCREDITED HIMSELF!

When President Roosevelt reconvenes congress for consideration of policy concerning the war in Europe, then will our legislative process need capable statesmanship and an absence of political opportunism.

That congress will rise to needs of the situation is probable, but our veteran legislator, Senator Borah of Idaho, apparently is doing his bit to make of the session just another anti-administration political rally.

Already Borah is soliciting publicity for himself by fighting the battles of the special session even before the session has been called. He is arguing his case in the newspapers before any case has been presented.

Of all men in the nation at this time, perhaps William E. Borah is the most discredited. It was he, very largely, who defeated the President's attempts to secure neutrality law revision during the last session by announcing that there would be no European crisis or war. He left the inference that his sources of information were superior to those of the President and the state department.

Neutrality statute revision was asked by Mr. Roosevelt at a time when he believed such action might have a deterrent effect on war plans abroad. Now revision can be aimed only at hastening conclusion of the slaughter.

Many of us for years on end have held Borah in high regard as a statesman and sincere legislator. For the first time he has raised serious doubts in many Americans' minds and today he places himself in the position of one who stubbornly injured the cause of peace and delayed necessary legislation—and was proved wrong by his own words.

At the special session of congress to be called soon Senator Borah will carry only the weight of a publicity-hungry old man desperately trying to be an important figure in politics at a time when politics should be forgotten.

MIGHT NOT STALIN BE NEXT?

These are troublous-times with the world scene a swiftly-changing, kaleidoscopic mass of passion. How surprising are the ever-shifting scenes, and how fickle our interpretation of their significance is demonstrated by recalling the situation of a few years ago when Italy was making conquest of Ethiopia.

At that time the newly-risen Hitler was regarded as a second-rate dictator of little or no world importance; all attention was directed to Mussolini, who strode the center of the militaristic stage and made nations tremble.

Once Benito's thunder was expended, then the world's eyes and ears suddenly were turned to Germany's supposed mimic dictator. Surprised indeed were most people when the truth dawned that of the two, perhaps Hitler's ambitions would wreak the most havoc.

When Hitler's strength has been spent, his armies wasted, perhaps then a third dictator, Russia's Stalin—these many years largely ignored—may take the center of the stage and cause more world-wide trembling and misery.

This is not a pleasant epoch in which to live while history is being made.

PROPAGANDA GETS A BODY-BLOW!

According to John W. Kelly's dispatch to The Miner from Washington, D. C., this week (appearing in today's issue) the deluge of European radio propaganda rebroadcast in this country at the start of the war ended suddenly and definitely when President Roosevelt made known his dislike for such programs to the Federal Communications commission. The FCC, through its licensing power over the broadcasting stations, was able to stop spread of the propaganda.

Speaking to the entire nation at the outbreak of war, President Roosevelt pledged that his administration would make every effort to keep us out of the

LIFE'S BYWAYS!



conflict. His weeding out of dangerous and hate-provoking propaganda over the radio was a great service to the cause of American neutrality.

Since the "invasion from Mars" scare of several months ago, it is well that the President has been alert to protect a gullible listening public from its own emotions. Propaganda played a great part in involving us in the last World War and apparently Mr. Roosevelt is seeing to it that we are not going to be duped this time.

What Other Editors Are Saying!

RUMORED SCUTTLE OF THE CORCORANS

The remarkable announcement from the President's office in Washington that his war-time emergency streamlining of the executive branch of the government does away with Tommy Corcoran and the New Deal "kitchen cabinet," and their influence in governmental matters, is almost beyond belief.

It is not quite beyond the limit of possibility, because of the war-time side of the President's character.

President Roosevelt, as David Lawrence points out in his column, is the single high-ranking official now in the government who went through the first World War in a high position within the government.

Even the high army and navy officers of 1918 have long since retired. All high-ranking civilians in the war agencies of 1917-18 have passed out of official life.

Roosevelt was a trusted adviser of President Wilson. He was assistant secretary of the navy and had to spend much time in London in war days. He became familiar during the war with problems of shipping and submarine raiding. He knew about the intelligence units, and their discoveries of sabotage. There is no question but that the Nazis would rather have almost any other citizen of the United States

as its president at this moment. He is a keen student of naval strategy, and the best of all commanders of the United States army and navy in time of war.

Thus it is easy to see how in his own mind he might conceive a new position of war-time leadership to be a superior role to his old position of peace-time American leadership.

If he does, the Corcorans of his political fighting staff could decrease in importance to near zero, while real statesmen might become vitally important in their places.

At this hour President Roosevelt seems determined to put America into the war, at least to the extent of suspending our neutrality embargo against supplying arms and war materials to our favored belligerents. A call for congress to assemble and vote him this power seems imminent. It is a necessary step for him if he is to assume the world war-time importance that could be his.

He might be willing to scuttle the Corcorans to gain this step. He might see the Corcorans as a sacrifice he could make to gain the approval of congress for the things he wants.

He must know that in war he must become an acting dictator with powers far beyond anything

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the Corcorans could possibly secure for him in five or in 50 years of peace.

He would be the best possible war-time dictator America could ever find.

But do we want war times in America?—Grants Pass Courier.

SPLEEN IN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT

That the dominating note of the final action of the last congress was pure hatred of the President, unleashed and rampant, cannot be doubted. That economy was not the animating spirit is proven in the fact that the congress appropriated some \$300,000,000 more than the President had asked. A total of 13 billions were appropriated, so there is a very small case made out that there was any money saving in the minds of congress as a whole.

One can easily sit down and despair of democratic government in contemplation of a group, one might better say a herd, that is charged with deliberate responsibility, acting like spoiled children. If it did any good, one might hang his head in shame that the nation's lawmaking body is composed of such petty men. Justification for their action on the ground that the President has been dictatorial and overbearing is like saying that if a policeman finds another officer shooting at a citizen, he should grab his gun and start shooting other and more of the natives, so that he doesn't let the first cop outdo him.

It is both disgusting and saddening Democracy is without doubt on its way out the world over and we are furnishing the world a full-fledged spectacle of assninity in full flower.—Roseburg Chieftain.

WHO PROFITS?

Who profits by war? Who, when the last gun has fired its last shell, can say "Well done. The end is accomplished and I am satisfied"? These questions, asked by many Americans after the close of the last World War, are being asked by many Americans today at the start of a conflict that may soon become another World War.

Who does profit, or in any way gain? The farmer? No. Any possible profits to be made from a few years of higher prices for his products will be more than eaten up in the taxes that will, some day, have to be assessed to pay for the war. The small business man who may lose his all in economic readjustments attendant upon any war? The laborer, who like the farmer will in the end pay back wages? The politician whose constituents will some day blame him, possibly unjustly, for taking away their sons? The soldier who lives to return? Ask any veteran.

No, the answer must be sought elsewhere; possibly among the political hotheads of all nations; possibly among the munitions makers or from the unscrupulous element among the big industrialists; possibly from Hitler and the potential Hitlers of all countries, who mistakenly see in war the opportunity to win places in the world from which their own personalities will always bar them.

The German people cannot possibly hope to gain, for even though the goal of empire of which their leaders dream is reached, the cost will be so high that profit will be lost and alliances now formed will become liabilities instead of assets. The German people's all is again being staked against terrific odds for, while they may be now even stronger than in 1914, their rise has been too rapid and they will have a second enemy even more dangerous than the allies—internal strife. England and France are in no position for a protracted war; neither are Italy, China and Japan. Russia, like a huge monster, waits—no nation's ally, every nation's enemy.

No, there is no gain in war. The United States must arm, FOR DEFENSE, take every measure possible to keep out of hostilities across the seas AND, equally important, weed out the subversive elements that war from within—

FACTS FOR DRIVERS
By EARL SNELL
Secretary of State

OREGON'S traffic accident situation and what is being done about it formed the theme for a booth maintained by the secretary of state's office and the state highway department at the Oregon state fair this year.

Featured in the display was a statistical account of traffic accidents, injuries and deaths; figures on gasoline consumption, driver registration and non-resident motorists registration. The story of safety activities carried on in Oregon by Earl Snell, secretary of state, was told in statistics and pictures.

Hundreds of fair visitors have taken the reaction test, the reactometer measuring in split seconds the time it takes a driver to apply his brakes at a given signal. The average time is three-fourths of a second.

A miniature set illustrated the seven basic lessons forming the safety driving school, sponsored by the secretary of state. Street intersections, complete with street signs and markings were shown in miniature as were highways, parking spaces and hills. Tiny cars were used to show the proper procedure in parking, starting and stopping on hills, driving in traffic, making turns, etc., as they are taught in the actual school. To give drivers a better idea of the operation of the clutch and gear shift, a cut-away clutch and gear assembly was included in the display.

A complete display of Oregon automobile license plates, from the first issued in 1905, down to the current tags was included in the booth.

The latest type electrical traffic signal devices were displayed by the state highways department, which also showed artists' drawings of various highway projects completed, under way or projected in Oregon. The booth was in the grandstand exhibit area.

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