

Southern Oregon Miner

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"THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE"

FOUND—ONE REPUBLICAN WHO ADVOCATES GOVERNMENT COMPETITION IN BUSINESS!

During an election year newspapers are given an unusual opportunity to put candidates on the spot, for at this time newspapers—like voters—are petted, pampered, flattered and catered to. It is a mighty tempting advantage.

Some time ago The Miner fussed editorially because the county school superintendent (a friend and capable educator) was making printing his official hobby, not only for his own office but also for other county officials. This practice has taken business away from a number of printing firms and, in effect, becomes a misuse of taxpayers' money by using it against those who help foot the superintendent's bills.

Perhaps now is an opportune time for The Miner and other printers to ask Charlie Bowman a few pertinent questions, with the hope of getting a more satisfactory answer than "We can't afford to buy our printing, so we spent hundreds of dollars of taxpayers' money going into the printing business ourselves."

How about it, C. R.? Aren't we entitled to know BEFORE election day just how far you plan to carry this idea of using our money to cut our throats?

★ ★ ★

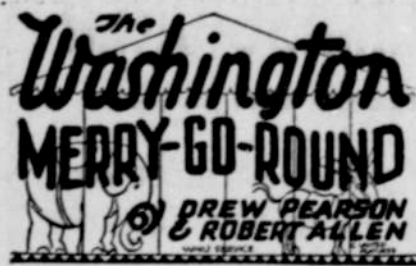
PROTECTORS OF THE 'ARK'S' CREW ARE A LITTLE LAGGARD WITH ADVICE!

Paul Satko, builder of a now famous Ark in Puget Sound waters, sailed into trouble and publicity last week when his unweildy-looking craft lodged on a sandbar and his children were forcibly removed by juvenile authorities.

All the fuss is based on pilots' and seamen's complaint that the craft is unseaworthy for a proposed trip to Alaska. Doubtless lives of the family would be jeopardized by such an adventure.

However, if the craft is so unseaworthy and a menace to navigation, why didn't the wise boys who know so much about the sea pitch in and help Satko build his craft the right way? Strange that they should be silent until the voyage was under way and then make their grandstand play.

Had the family's best interests been in their mind they well might have furnished plans and advice in the Ark's building instead of waiting to break a man's heart with arrest and ridicule.



U. S. AND THE WAR

WASHINGTON.—A group of farm leaders went to the White House to urge Roosevelt to support the Jones bill, which would cut interest rates on government farm loans. And while they got the President's support, they also got an earful on another subject—why the U. S. will not get involved in the European war.

The discussion began when one of the farmers asked Roosevelt whether propaganda and the loss of foreign markets would affect U. S. neutrality. This brought an emphatic negative from the President.

"I don't think the American people will lose their heads to the extent of being drawn into the European conflict," he said in effect. "It is true that the emotions of people can be quickly aroused, but reason and logic always triumph in the end. That's why our democratic form of government has survived so long."

"Take, for example, the arms embargo fight. There was a lot of talk from certain elements during that controversy, that if we lifted the embargo it would drag us into the war. Well, all that talk has died down and you don't hear it any more. There was no truth in it and it evaporated."

"The same happened during the debate over extending the reciprocal trade treaties. There was a lot of unfounded talk then, but it has all blown over unless political opportunists inject the issue into this year's campaign."

"What about the Nazi invasion of Denmark and Norway?" asked another of the farm visitors. "Will that endanger our neutrality?"

Again Roosevelt shook his head. "As long," he replied, "as we keep a level head, our feet on the ground and maintain a liberal government,

we have nothing to worry about."

Bombing Bill White.

President Roosevelt scored a neat one on his old friend William Allen White, the sage of Emporia, Kan., during his off-the-record session with the newspaper editors recently at the White House. Incidentally, the remark was a clue to what Roosevelt thinks is the chief danger to the United States—Nazi forces in Latin America.

The President was talking about the war and the question of national defense, especially as it applied to the Western hemisphere. To illustrate his point, he turned suddenly to Mr. White, who was sitting in the group before him.

"For instance, Bill White may think he's a lot safer in Kansas than I am up in Hyde Park, N. Y.," said the President, "but he isn't."

He went on to explain that if enemy bombers were to seek out Hyde Park they would have a long way to fly across the Atlantic. But if they wanted to bomb Bill White in Kansas, it was relatively easy for them to fly up from Mexico where enemy air bases could be established.

Under the Dome.

One of the most inspiring sights in our democratic government is to see the President of the United States address a joint session of congress. These gatherings include not only the President and members of the house and senate, but also cabinet members, Supreme court justices, foreign diplomats, members of the President's family, plus social and political leaders—all seated in the house of representatives.

But—some members of congress heave a sigh of relief when these sessions are adjourned. What they know, though others do not, is that



GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:

DONOVAN'S SOLDIERS
Wild Bill Donovan, the able lawyer, who turned out to be a whiz-bang soldier, a fighting fool and a medal of honor man in the World war, is advocating something new in raising armies.

He wants us to stop sending our kids first to war. He says that the only excuse for it was that they have greater endurance in a sudden spurt of speed, though not in long, steady pulls. Since soldiers are, to a continuously greater extent, going to war on wheels and pulling mechanical levers instead of clubbing muskets, he thinks men up to 500—and even older—could do just as well.

I know what is eating Wild Bill. I have felt it gnawing me. He is reaching the age where, if we don't pass a law or something, he might have to stay out of any possible shindy himself.

Seriously, Bill's got something there. Boys scarcely more than children fight wars. There are more reasons for this than Colonel Donovan gives. One is that, where there is any element of volunteering, they are more impulsive and



COL. WILLIAM DONOVAN
He would keep youth out of war.

rush first to the recruiting sergeant. A youth has fewer responsibilities—to a family, a farm, a business, or a job.

Men in actual combat service are only a fraction of the troops used in war. Supply and other auxiliary services require more soldiers than does fighting. There is no sense in culling out a physically perfect kid and setting him to rolling pills in a medical supply department in Kalamazoo. If we relaxed physical requirements to run-of-mill standard and created classes for "special and limited military service" for the less than perfect, we would greatly reduce the drain on the best of our youth crop with no loss in military energy. We tried that toward the close of the World war and it worked.

Furthermore, if we impose no arbitrary age limits, but only limits of physical fitness, even for combat service, we shall be using greater common sense and be getting far greater economy in the use of our national manpower.

ALASKAN FRONT

A glance at the map of the North Pacific will show that we are closer to Russia than any other good neighbor except Canada and Mexico. At Bering straits, Siberia and Alaska almost touch. That is under the Arctic circle and is not a dangerous menace. But, far to the south of that, our Aleutian islands lie like stepping stones on the way

to Kamchatka. The outlying Russian islands of Komandorski and Bering seem to be a mere extension of the Aleutian archipelago and are within a few miles of the American Near islands.

We have no fortification or air bases in the Aleutians, notwithstanding that they skirt the shortest of the Great Circle route between Seattle and either Japan or the Siberian coasts and that enemy air bases there could threaten the whole North Pacific and our main defensive line—Alaska, Hawaii and Panama.

It is a threatening and dangerous situation. I know of no professional authority that does not agree that, purely for defensive purposes, we must guard this flank. The army has authority for an auxiliary air base at Fairbanks, Alaska, but the proposed main operating air base is at Anchorage at the head of Cook inlet. This will require \$14,000,000 to complete and urgently and immediately demands \$4,000,000 to start.

The strategists of the house appropriations committee "economized" here, while refusing to do so to one billion of vote-getting handouts. They blacked-out the anchorage. They "economized" also on reserve airplanes for the army cutting the number asked from 476 to 57. Part of this cut the war department approved in view of the increased foreign purchases of military types, but it did not do so as to 166 planes of a type the need for which was not lessened by expanded airplane production capacity.

Furthermore, the roof of the senate chamber is supported by similar materials, and architects have recommended that it be replaced.

Serious-minded Horace D. Rouzer, assistant architect of the Capitol, solemnly warned members of the senate appropriations committee recently that "in some instances the pins should not be stressed over 12,000 pounds, but computations show stresses up to around 75,000 pounds per square inch." He was referring to the roof on the senate side of the Capitol.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

Members of the German embassy, apparently none too enthusiastic over Hitler's treatment of private property, are buying up quantities of silver plate at U. S. jewelry stores. This is one investment they can keep with less danger of Nazi confiscation. One member of the German embassy staff confided at dinner the other night that he was worried over Germany's loss of ships, because now perhaps Hitler wouldn't have enough ships to land troops in England.

PEN PORTRAITS of OREGON

DRAWN FOR THE MINER BY MAC PHERSON



HENRY VILLARD

LEADING FIGURE IN OREGON'S RAILROAD HISTORY. HE BUILT ABOUT 100 MILES OF RAIL WAY IN OREGON THAT WAS CONNECTED TO A GREAT TRANSCONTINENTAL LINE. HIS GIFT OF \$50,000 TO THE UNIVERSITY PLACED HIM AMONG THE GREAT BENEFACTORS OF OREGON.



"BEST FRIEND" FIRST AMERICAN-BUILT AND DESIGNED LOCOMOTIVES BUILT IN NEW YORK CITY IN 1830

CENTRAL OREGON

HAS MANY GEOLOGICAL WONDERS. ONE IS FOSSIL MOUNTAIN, A BURIAL GROUND OF 3,000,000 YEARS AGO.



Campus Day Initiates Spading and Cleaning At Ashland Hi School

Phenomena of phenomeneae greeted early risers last week when some 250 high school students, initiating their first campus day, were seen spading, hoeing, grubbing, pulling dandelions and taking part in other various forms of labor to brighten and enlarge the somewhat small campus and to set a precedent for years to come.

The boys, about 110 in number, spaded and cultivated the small park north of the tennis courts, as well as the surrounding territory, and the park row across the street, while the girls picked up paper, pulled dandelions and weeds out of the lawn, washed woodwork and fixed the picnic lunch. It is

planned to take over some project each year for improvement and beautification of school grounds by students.

Following the lunch, which was served in the main halls because of rain, the group took part in community singing and heard a short talk by Prof. William Jones, head of the Willamette university economics department. Following the talk students were dismissed for remainder of the day.

An examiner of operators and chauffeurs will be in the Ashland city hall from 1 to 5 p. m. Friday, May 10, to issue licenses and permits to drive cars.

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VOTERS ATTENTION, PLEASE!

The present County Coroner and his Ashland deputy are closing their eighth year in office.

In the interest of, and in fairness to all, this office should be changed this year.

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