

LETTERS To the Editor

AGAINST GOLF COURSE

To the Editor: Mr. and Mrs. Voter and Taxpayer, before you vote to buy a golf course just ask yourself these questions:

If the city has \$6000 where did we get it? Whose money is it who paid it?

With a 1500-acre park, two tennis courts, a lighted athletic field and the mountains, lakes and rivers right at our door, how much more recreation grounds do you think we need? Haven't we already a defunct air field paid for with your money?

Did you ever know of a municipal golf course that paid its way without the help of the taxpayers' money?

Do you want the city to use your tax money to speculate in real estate, when we already have so much property taken by taxes? Would it not be better for the taxpayer if the 90 acres were turned into a dairy ranch that would pay its taxes on both land and equipment and pay for the water used, than take it off the tax rolls and furnish the water paid for by the taxpayers? Do you think the mythical income from the golf course will support it?

Don't you think that the next move will be a special levy to help support it? Why hasn't it paid before?

It is my opinion that it would not be a wise move to buy the golf course or any other property that has failed to show that it could take care of itself.

Just think it over and let your judgment decide.

T. L. O'HARRA.

EDITOR'S NOTE—The letter printed above more or less expresses some of this paper's early doubts on the golf course question, and it was only after investigation that The Miner decided its first impression was based on snap judgment and poor information, and we feel certain that if Mr. O'Harra—who is a reasonable man—were to inform himself fully on the proposition he would be ashamed of his defeatist attitude. We see no reason why Ashland should let such a recreational area go out of existence just because all of us do not play golf. (We don't ALL use the library, the park, the tennis courts, drink lithia water, go to public schools or call on the police and fire departments, yet we'd certainly not want to see them abandoned just because WE don't use them!) Besides, many of the questions asked by O'Harra don't apply to the Ashland course.

RAY J. SCHUMACHER

Democratic Candidate for County Assessor Very Impartial Treatment to All!

L. O. (OTTO) CASTER

Democratic Candidate for County Commissioner Primaries May 17 WILL STRIVE TO BE FAIR AND IMPARTIAL TO ALL THE COUNTY

I came to Oregon in 1884 when a small boy, with my parents, and have lived here all the time since, except three years when I resided in California. I have farmed and raised cattle the past 35 years. I am married and have raised a family of three girls and one boy. These are my qualifications for Commissioner: Served as road supervisor for six years, and worked on roads off and on during the past 30 years. Served as commissioner from 1935 until 1939.

L. O. CASTER

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.

We solicit and appreciate your support—"CONGER FOR CORONER"—primaries May 17th.



O.M. Litwiler

LITWILLER FUNERAL HOME

(We Never Close)

Phone 4541

PEN PORTRAITS of OREGON

DRAWN FOR THE MINER BY MAC PHERSON



OREGON SETTLER DISCOVERED GOLD IN CALIFORNIA. JAMES W. MARSHALL SETTLED IN OREGON IN 1844. TWO YEARS LATER HE LEFT FOR CALIFORNIA AS PARTNER OF CAPT. JOHN A. SUTTER. THERE HE BUILT A SAW MILL AND DISCOVERED THE PRECIOUS METAL, JAN. 24, 1848.

FIRST SCHOOL IN MARY'S RIVER COUNTRY, NOW A PART OF BENTON COUNTY, WAS A LOG CABIN WITH NO FLOOR, DESKS, NO SEATS EXCEPT A LOG.



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The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C.

SHOOTING THE WORKS

There is every indication that Hitler plans to throw everything he has into the war this summer, in order to end it by October. Cabled reports by U. S. observers abroad all point to this.

There is almost certain to be a series of blows aimed at different parts of Europe—Holland, Rumania, Hungary, Greece, in quick succession.

Hitler has ample munitions and raw materials to last him through summer and fall, but perhaps not for the winter. Also there is a big Nazi question mark placed over the presidential elections in the United States. No matter which party is elected, the Nazis are figuring that the United States will at least lift the Johnson act (forbidding credits to defaulted nations) and begin rushing major munitions to the allies on credit.

This Hitler strategy of betting the whole pot on one hand is why Italy is moving closer to war. It was always the Italian plan to bet on the side of the surewinner. And now, Mussolini appears to be convinced that the present moment in Europe is equivalent to June, 1918, when it was a foregone conclusion that the allies were bound to win.

Today—May, 1940—Mussolini seems to think that the situation is reversed, that the Nazis are bound to win, and a lot of skilled American observers are worried over the fact that they agree with him.

TAFT CLAIMS

A little-noticed press release put out by Taft headquarters last week deserved a lot more attention than it got. It was significant on two counts:

First, its challenging tone toward the claims of Dewey. For the first time, the Taft camp struck squarely and vigorously at the New Yorker. Dewey's managers were pooh-poohed as "much more proficient in making claims than in electing delegates," and the flat assertion was made that Taft will have "delegate strength in practically every state... and will be the real choice of a majority of the delegates..."

Second, for its first time Taft managers did some specific delegate claiming of their own. Previously they spoke only in total figures—ranging from 320 to 370 delegates—but they always avoided specific state figures. This time, however, the Taftites got down to the following particulars:

California—At least half of the 35 delegates will be for Taft.

Delaware—A majority for Taft; none for Dewey.

Indiana—Still unchosen, but Dewey claims of supremacy "fall in the class of wishful thinking."

Iowa—A "favorite son" delegation for Hanford McNider, minister to Canada under Hoover, with Taft definitely in the lead as second choice.

Missouri—At least 10 of Missouri's 20 delegates in the Taft bag.

New York—Taft has a good chance to get a bloc of delegates from Dewey's own home state.

New Mexico—Four of the six delegates privately favor Taft, even though this is the home state of Mrs. Simms, one of Dewey's campaign managers.

North Carolina—At least 15 of the 23 for Taft and not over five "have even a leaning to Mr. Dewey."

Ohio—Solidly for Taft.

The South—"The natural and normal sentiment of the southern states, without a single exception, is for Senator Taft. It is entirely possible that Mr. Gannett will have more delegates from the South than Mr. Dewey."

Washington—Its delegates are not yet elected but not over six of the 16 will be for Dewey.

In summary, the Taft campaign managers claim that their man will have most votes on the first ballot.

Looks like the Philadelphia convention will be interesting.

DUCE HARD TO SEE

When Ambassador Phillips called upon Mussolini last week it was the first time in one and a half years (with one exception) that a U. S. envoy had seen the real dictator of Italy.

The one exception was when Sumner Welles visited Rome and insisted that Ambassador Phillips sit in on his talk with Mussolini. For 18 months prior to that, Il Duce had not seen one foreign diplomat except the German.

Phillips got the audience only because the President of the United States asked for it personally.

What Roosevelt wanted, of course, was some word regarding Italy's war aims.

Naturally no ambassador can ask the ruler of any country whether he



Phillips



W.W. Service

JIM FARLEY AND BASEBALL

JIM FARLEY, chairman of the Democratic national committee and postmaster general, is reported among others interested in an attempt to buy the New York Yanks. Jim is reported in some quarters as declining to comment and in others as denying the story, but we can all understand how, after the last seven years, it would seem to him to be out where it wasn't necessary to depend on rumor to find who was pitching.

Jim was a baseball player in his youth back in Haverstraw, N. Y., and all his experience since must have convinced him more than once that one inning in the diamond is more refreshing than decades in politics.

For one thing the rules remain the same. Nobody thinks it would be better if the player got four strikes instead of three, there are no suggestions that three balls should entitle a player to walk, and nowhere is it proposed that all unemployed shortstops be sent to a Federal Shortstop Camp.

Jim has announced that his name will positively go before the Democratic convention as a candidate for the presidency. He would have two strikes on all the other candidates if he could bring the Yanks into the convention hall.

What chance would a candidate depending wholly on a voice, a program and a record have against one who could face the convention with the Number One ball club, a host of loyal rooters and a new type of windup?

We can even see Jim in the White House, getting the people's minds back to baseball and away from slumps, economic experiments and programs to remodel society. We can see him with Bill Dickey replacing Secretary Ickes, Frank Crosetti on Harry Hopkins' job, and Charlie Ruffing playing Madam Perkins' old position.

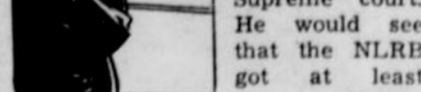
Jim, as a real baseball man, would have a deep regard for the Immortal Bambino, the former Yank star, and would perhaps get the Babe on the bench of the Supreme court. He would see that the NLRE got at least some pitchers

with a change of pace. And he would stop anybody in the administration from using the "bean ball" deliberately.

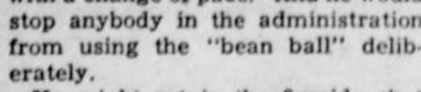
He might retain the fireside chat idea, but if so he would include the baseball scores and a short talk on the league situation.

intends to make war. Instead, Phillips raised the question of American shipping in the Mediterranean.

It was at this point that Mussolini replied reassuringly, and indicated that American shipping did not have to worry. But there was nothing definite denying war intention.



Bill Dickey, Catcher Sec'y of Interior



Charles Ruffing, Pitcher Sec'y of Labor

Southern Oregon Miner advertisement including publication details, subscription rates, and contact information for Leonard N. Hall.

AW, COME ON FRANK AND LET'S BE FRIENDS—AFTER ELECTION DAY!

Frank Newman, who pictures himself as an august and learned circuit judge—the voters please be willing—has lashed out at The Miner's criticism of his record as district attorney.

Frank has attempted to show, by unrevealing "statistics," that his record as a public prosecutor has been impeccable. And it's all right with us if he is proud of that record, for that's a matter of viewpoint. But most Ashland folks who have followed cases through his office that originated in this part of the county will have their own opinions of Newman's effectiveness.

Said the D-A at a Townsend meeting in Ashland last week, "I wish The Miner editor were here now!" Yes, and if Fumbling Frank were all there, we'd be able to get together.

WHY NOT QUIT BEING EASY MARKS FOR AN UNAPPRECIATIVE EUROPE?

Very naturally Americans' sympathy is with the Czechoslovakians, the Poles, the Finns, the Norwegians and now the Dutch and Belgians. But for some reason or other we have a growing suspicion somebody is pulling our leg and transforming our compassionate tears into coin through the alchemy of "relief."

Already newspaper readers are being bombarded with posed publicity pictures of women and children waving to the allies as they filter into the low countries, and it won't be long before the 1940 version of "chopping off babies' hands" will be spewed over the neutral landscape.

Most surprising happening of recent days came last week when, less than 24 hours after the German blitzkrieg struck through Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg, Jackson county had been notified that its quota for "relief of the new victims of war" in those countries had been set at \$2400. The American Red Cross almost had beat the nazis to the draw! Telegraphed from San Francisco were the quota instructions at the same hour that news came of the German invasion!

Now that's really yelling "Ouch!" before anyone has been hurt.

Relief for war-battered peoples is a commendable mercy, but not when hungry and jobless are being ignored here, and some relief agencies now clamoring for sympathetic outpouring of riches to Europe are notably deaf to cries for help at home.

The war is creating a terrific problem in Europe, but by what command are we obligated to lick the wounds of belligerents in a far-off land while many of our own sores fester ignored and unattended?

Relief drives for war victims is one of the surest tools for preparing American psychology for entry into the European war. Let's be just a little bit hard-to-get this time!

GRASS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC IS NO GREENER!

A lot of the boys up and down the pike, still mad at the Kaiser, are mumbling things about how the United States had better get into the war and help out the allies. They would enlist themselves, almost, if it weren't for one reason and another.

However, before we indulge in so much hating of "that beast Hitler" that we are blinded to more threatening realities in our own back yard, perhaps we should consider well the problem of Mexico, where authorities agree there's likely to be a revolution this year. If we feel so belligerent and anxious to carry a musket, why not rattle a saber along our southern border and reclaim some of our investments now expropriated? We've got a lot of work that could be done right here in North America that well might occupy our time, our emotions and our military.

And how about the Dutch East Indies, and the West Indies? And what are we going to do about protecting Alaska and its "Kattagat" separating it from Russia?

If we want to get mad at somebody and show the world our outrage, we can practice up a bit in our own half of the world and let the gingham dog and calico cat eat each other up in Europe. They'll do it anyway, with or without our help!