

SOUTHERN OREGON MINER

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Lifted Editorial

Can it be that German soil is no more sacred after all than soil of other nations?

Is it not immunized by the mystic power of pagan German deities against such a fate as befall soil that was merely French, Russian, Dutch, Greek, Yugoslav, Norwegian, Italian, Bulgarian, Rumanian, Polish, Danish, Belgian, Albanian, Czechoslovakian, Austrian, Finnish?

Can a foreign soldier set foot on German land except there first be trickery in the non-German world's armistice proposals and betrayal by international-minded Jews within the Reich?

Can the German soldier, trained and uniformed to conquer a world, be driven back like an ordinary human being even on his home territory?

The answer of the so-called "Germanic blood" is no. But there is another answer. The Yanks have it as they push into Germany north of Trier. The Russians have it as they bite into East Prussia. Both forces crossed the supposedly inviolable borders of Germany on the same day—September 11.

The fact of foreign soldiers fighting their way onto German soil should be salutary in Germany. One of the things a Nazi-fied generation of Germans has to learn is that Germans are not necessarily better than other people, that they have no rights that other people are not equally entitled to, that there is no special blessing on German arms.

Guest Editorial

By Francis Biddle, United States Attorney General
It is difficult for federal officials in Washington to keep in

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touch with people throughout the country, particularly during a war. Therefore, I am glad that these brief remarks are to be published in some of the rural papers, so that their readers can get an idea of the principles which I believe should guide the Attorney General and the members of the Department of Justice.

The Attorney General, besides advising the President and the heads of federal departments and bureaus, acts as Uncle Sam's lawyer. He defends the United States in suits brought against her and collects claims on behalf of the United States—taxes, amounts due on contracts, penalties, etc. Last year, for instance, we collected over \$8,000,000, not counting taxes.

The Department of Justice also prosecutes under the criminal laws of the United States. Congress makes these laws; and the Attorney General, through the United States Attorneys in the 150 districts throughout the country, enforces them.

It is essential particularly in a democracy that the will of the people, expressed in legislation, should be carried out. This enforcement must be prompt to remain effective, and must be merciful and just to be respected. For enforcement of law, in the ultimate sense, is based on the cooperation of the public. Particularly is this true of the enforcement during the war of special laws, such as priorities and OPA regulations made necessary by the special war emergency when individual rights have to be subordinated temporarily to the common good.

And enforcement must be fair. The first ten amendments to the Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights, protect the individual from the tyranny of injustice—protect his right to worship freely, to criticize his government freely (even in a war) to be secure against unreasonable searches and seizures; to be indicted and tried speedily if he is accused of crime by an impartial jury, to be confronted by witnesses appearing against him. And enforcement must be impartial. A democracy cannot be safeguarded by undemocratic means. No group is above or beyond the laws. They apply to all alike—to all the people—rich or poor, employer or employee, farmer or factory workers, Catholic, Protestant or Jew. No policy can long endure if it benefits one group at the expense of the general public. Each group has its right to protection under the law, but that right, like the rights of all in a democracy, is qualified and relative. It must always be superseded by the constitutional "right" of the people of the United States—the general welfare.

Open The Door

By Ruth Taylor
"The door to the human heart can be opened only from the inside."
I found that sentence tucked away at the bottom of the page of the magazine I was reading on the train. I tore it out and tucked it away for safekeeping—for through that doorway I could see so many vistas.

The doorway to the human heart—I think it is like one of those fascinating glass doors that swing open as you pass the hidden light. I think that only from the depths of our own desire to understand, desire to think selflessly, can we meet in perfect communion the minds of others. If we go up to them with preconceived prejudices, with instinctive dislike, we will not pass the light. The door will not open—and no outer key will unlock it.

But if in a warmth of spirit, in a feeling of friendliness and with a warm and understanding heart, we approach our neighbor, the door will spring wide open. It is next to impossible to hate a person we know. The wells of understanding are too deep and forgiving.

If we really love life, and laughter, fair play and good fellowship, we will have no room for prejudice or cruelty. There will be no space left for misunderstanding. If we really want for others what we want for ourselves—happiness and an opportunity to grow, we will face the adventure that is life in a spirit of friendliness for our neighbor. Because we have opened our hearts, our neighbor's heart will be opened unto us.

Just imagine what a world this would be if we could bring ourselves to stop distrusting our neighbor. And just imagine what it would be like if he felt complete trust in us? Utopian? Yes—but is it more impossible than the things that have already come to pass in the world?

Understanding of our neighbor's needs, awareness of his problems, self-restraint against misjudging or generalizing about him, willingness to work with him—and above all and through all the spirit of friendliness, that is the secret ray which will open the door to any heart.

Democratic Candidate Makes Statement

PORTLAND, Sept. 18—Edgar W. Smith, democratic candidate for the long term senate seat, announced his position at a meeting of democratic bigwigs here yesterday.

"I have entered the contest", he said, "because I want to place Oregon on record for world wide security and enduring peace. I want Oregon to have a part in seeing that the United States does its full share in keeping world order. I feel that my children's children should not be forced to fight another war 25 years from now, as I did 25 years ago, and as my sons are doing today."
Smith said that he felt peace could have been assured following World War I if Congress had heeded President Wilson's advice "I aspire to be one of the men in Congress who shall insist this time that America rise to the full dignity of her indicated position of leadership for world peace", he said.

The candidate, who was born and raised near Pendleton, is a farmer and has been active in state civic affairs for several years. He is a member of the state board of higher education.

He said that within a few days he would release an itinerary of speaking swing throughout the state.

High School Test Plan Final Action Ready

CORVALLIS—Oregon will have a high school testing program, related to college entrance, comparable to that developed in Ohio under the leadership of Ray G. Wood, recognized testing specialist, if a plan drawn by the high school relations committee of the state system of higher education is approved by the secondary school executives in their October conference.

The plan has just been approved by the state board of higher education which provided an appropriation to start the program contingent upon the acceptance of the plan by the state's high school leaders.

Dean E. B. Lemon, chairman of the high school relations committee, says the program contains three main features. One calls for a general test for high school seniors applying for state board tuition scholarships, rather than basing selection entirely on high school record and recommendations.

A second provision is for a subject-matter test in basic fields to be given at the end of the junior year to those contemplating college, thus giving time to correct deficiencies that may appear. A third feature is a general ability test to measure capacity and adaptability for college training.

The state department of education and the high schools would cooperate in making the plan largely self supporting eventually under the program adopted.

* Astoria, The Dalles, Springfield and Enterprise held first places in their respective population groups of the 1944 Oregon Cities Traffic Safety contest at the end of the first seven months of this year, Secretary of State Bob Farrell disclosed today.

In the first division, Astoria stepped into first place while Bend and Klamath Falls, long-time holders of top honors in this division, dropped to lower positions. In second place was Med-

ford, with Eugene third. Salem was fourth, Bend fifth, Portland sixth and Klamath Falls seventh.

The first three places in the second division were held by The Dalles, Albany and Corvallis. Springfield, Hillsboro and Coquille held the first three spots in the third division, while in the fourth group, Enterprise was followed by Warrenton and Sheridan.

Cities are divided into population groups for the contest and standings are based on each city's current accident experience compared to its own previous three-year average.

TEACHERS ELECT

Grants Pass.—Cecil Roberts, principal of Riverside school is the new president of the Josephine County Teachers' association.

Mrs. Hallie T. Woodward, Jerome Prairie, is vice-president; Miss Marian Sanders, Grants Pass secretary and treasurer Miss Hazel King was nominated for vice-president of the O.S.T.A. and Frank W. Thomas, principal of Grants Pass high school, for membership on the board of trustees.

Truck Buyers Must Meet War Work Requirement

Prospective purchasers of used trucks again are urged to make certain before acquiring the vehicles that their proposed operations meet all wartime operating requirements.

The warning was given by the Office of Defense Transportation and should be heeded by Ashland prospective truck buyers otherwise they may discover after purchasing a used truck that it is impossible to obtain gasoline to operate the vehicle.

War-time shortages of tires, gas and equipment according to ODT have made it necessary to approve only those truck operations deemed necessary to the war effort and to the essential civilian economy.

Meanwhile it is learned that urgent needs for new school buses to replace worn-out equipment are being met partially this year, after almost total lack of school buses for the past two years. J. Monroe Johnson, ODT Director pointed out that War Production Board approval of 1944 production quotas will enable ODT to authorize purchase of approximately 5,000 new school buses this year and that "more than 2,400 of this number already have been released to schools where new buses are essential to prevent pupil ab-

sences and to replace equipment no longer safe in operation." Any truck tire that is 5 pounds below may have a puncture.

Many Ashland residents by this time have learned the trick of detecting tire punctures through the comparative air loss system. But those who do not are told that any passenger car tire that is 3 pounds below the lowest of its running mates can be sus-

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