

SOUTHERN OREGON MINER

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Caryll H. & Marion C. Wines, Editors-Publishers

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NO EARLY V-DAY CELEBRATION

Some weeks ago the Miner reported that the local American Legion Post had passed a resolution that they did not favor the celebration of any victory day when the war in Europe ends, but do so only when the entire war is over, including that in the Pacific. This resolution was also passed by the state American Legion convention in session later, as a direct result of the Ashland Resolution and later the national meeting of the Legion also passed the resolution.

We think that this is a fine resolution and that there should be no public celebration when the fighting in Europe comes to an end. Out here on the Pacific coast where we seemingly are closer to the Pacific fighting front, the end of the fighting is a long way away yet. In fact as it progresses it becomes increasingly clear, that we are now only getting a start in the fight to whip the japs. And if we see the situation clearly it is going to be a long day yet before the end comes.

Should there be any public observance, or a public celebration, should we say, like that when the armistice was signed in 1918, it would have a tendency to make people feel that the all-out war effort was not needed as now. And it most certainly would make the boys on the Pacific fighting fronts feel that they were let down by the people of the United States. With another war loan coming up, too, and no doubt more to come, such a celebration would only tend to lessen the effort to put over this important campaign.

There will no doubt, be a lot of celebrating going on over the country when V-day comes in Europe, but right now would be a good time to take steps to head off such a move. Any observance we feel, should be merely an expression of thanks that it has come and not one like that at the end of the first world war. The Legion is to be commended for its stand in this matter.

PEACETIME CONSCRIPTION

There has been much talk the past couple of years about the United States, in order not to be caught as it was at Pearl Harbor, should, following the end of the war, undertake some sort of a peace time draft or conscription, to build up an army that we might not get caught short, as unprepared as we were before the present war. There can be no doubt that this country was about as unprepared for war in 1940 as it is possible for any nation to become, and none of us, I should say, would want to see us in that position again.

But to undertake to have a full time peace conscription into the army, or to keep a standing army, must take a lot of good thinking on before any such program is undertaken. Personally we are against such a program, if it means a program like that in some of the old world countries, where every able bodied man, as he becomes 18 or 19 must spend a year or more in the army, and then every year or so or four or five years be called back for a period of training. On the face of such a proposition, it may sound good but that is the very thing that early day founders of this nation left the old World to escape, and we for one, do not want to see it here now.

One might say that this nation is not military minded, and we have not been, neither are we at present, imperialistic minded, with any ambitions to take away from another country its lands or freedom. But with the passing of a generation or two, under military conscription, those things could be changed. A mighty army could be built under such a program and once there is such an army there is always danger of a military party or professional soldier group who would want to try out the army.

On the other hand, we certainly are not in favor of doing nothing about being prepared, for war. The people in this country must be prepared in peace time, to support with their money and moral backing, a state of preparedness hitherto unknown to the United States in peacetime. Wherein the middle ground of being prepared and still not becoming a militaristic nation lies, is a policy that our national leaders must decide. And such a decision is not going to be easy.

In the past we have had such programs as the national guard, the ROTC, the CMTC, and such programs. We must all agree that such programs didn't prove adequate when we were faced with war in 1941.

This editor is not prepared to say what program should be undertaken; it is a program that will take complete discussion in Congress. But we are against an out-and-out conscription into the army of every young man as he comes of age.

Follow the Leader Salute to Service Men

By Ruth Taylor

In a recent speech the Earl of Halifax paid tribute to General Eisenhower in the following words:

"Quite apart from the priceless value of his services in a military sense, I believe that no one has done more for Anglo-American relations in the broadest sense. He never asks if this or that man is British or American; all he wants to know is if he is the right man for the job. In this way, in France as in North Africa he has made two fighting forces into one."

This is truly a great tribute by a great statesman to a great general. In our pride in the recognition, however, let us not overlook the lessons that lie therein.

First - the secret of generalship - to properly delegate authority, to pick the right man for the job without permitting personalities, prejudices, or self interest to enter into the picture. A true leader is above pettiness. That is why he gets things done. That is why he can plan and push through his plans into successful execution.

General Eisenhower did not free France by quibbling, by pettiness, by oratory - but by doing his job with the best tools at his command, by respecting the men he used, picking them by ability, not by background.

Second - the personal challenge. Carry this idea down into the realm of your own life in your own community.

For say, as do we all, that we must act as Americans, judging each other as people undivided in our loyalties. But - do you always permit your neighbor to be an American first? Or do you otherwise characterize him?

Do you, like your General, pick the men with whom you deal because of their individual ability and integrity? Or do you first consider their backgrounds, their religion, their politics, and lastly their character? Do you let your neighbor be an American or do you hyphenate him?

This has been, this is a big war. It has caused big leadership to be developed. Let us try to let some of that bigness seep down into our own hearts and into our own lives. Let us be big enough to all be Americans.

Lifted Editorial

A roundup telling how our allies and troops abroad reacted to election returns remarks that in front-line fighting lines and on warships in action zones there was not such keen excitement noted.

There is nothing surprising about this. A boy on a sub that runs into a buoyant salt current while enemy patrols are circling the surface is more interested in the depth gauge than in the political barometer. A soldier lying in a mudhole, wet, hungry and tired, with machine-gun bursts going over, is likely to be more curious about the chances of getting a hot breakfast than whether the "Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight" will be a Democratic or Republican jubilation.

This doesn't mean that the boys far away are alienated from home interests. The truth is quite the contrary. But the perspective from a point of danger and hardship is a little different from that of the home fireside. —San Francisco Chronicle.

Marine Corps Honors Birthday Date

The United States Marines Friday Nov 10 begin their 170th year of battle-studded history with a prediction by their commandant, Lt. Gen. A. A. Vandegrift, that the hardest part of the war against Japan is yet to come.

Citing the 1500 mile drive across the Central Pacific, which the Leathernecks have spearheaded since last November 10, Lt. Gen. Vandegrift said:

"We honor the memories of the men who have fallen in the advance. They fell going forward. Long after the total victory for which they died is won, they will remain heroically alive in the hearts of their comrades and in the legends of the Corps."

"The coming year will be a supreme test. In it wait our hardest battles. Let no one underrate the power of the enemy. Our men with their brothers in arms in all branches of the service, look ahead with grim confidence not because of enemy weakness but because of our own proven strength."

Since the 1943 observance of that day in 1775 when Congress formally authorized the formation of two Marine battalions, 6,946 Marines have died on campaigns on Bougainville, and in the Gilberts, Marshalls, Marianas and Palaus, and about 20,000 have been wounded. These casualties bring the totals in World War II to 8,827 killed and some 25,000 wounded.

Crater Lake Snowed In; Roads Closed

Medford.—Crater Lake National Park is blanketed with snow from 30 inches to four feet deep. The park superintendent, E. P. Leavitt, says all roads are closed for the winter.

The Miner for Quality Printing.



Genial Don Ameche (above) will be master of ceremonies for the Elgin two-hour Thanksgiving Day variety show (Nov. 23, 1 to 3 p.m. PWT, over CBS), saluting service men abroad and their families at home. Featured in comedy, dramatic and musical spots will be such headliners of the entertainment world as Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, Moore and DuRante, Ed "Archie" Gardner, Falstaff, Openshaw, Spike Jones and his City Slickers, Frances Langford, Susanna Foster, Allan Jones, Elsie Janis, Lina Romay, the Charlotiers, Ken Carpenter and Low Silvers and his orchestra. This is the third year that Elgin has presented the Thanksgiving Day salute. On Christmas Day, a similar show will be presented with a galaxy of talent.

Lt. Bishop Member of Cited Bomb Group

An Eighth Air Force Liberator Station, England—The B-24 Liberator Four-engine Bomber Group in which 2nd Lt. Jackie M. Bishop, 75 Coolidge St., Ashland, Oregon is a member recently was cited by Major General William E. Kepner, commanding 2nd Bombardment Division; for distinguish and outstanding performance of duty.

The citation in part reads: "The devotion to duty, determination and tenacity of purpose exhibited by personnel of the Group reflect great credit upon themselves, their organization and the United States Army Air Forces."

The Group, which recently completed its 100th combat mission, is commanded by Colonel Luther J. Fairbanks of Burt Iowa and had previously been cited by Lt. Gen. H. Doolittle, commanding Eighth Air Force, for low level destruction of a bridge across the Loire, near Blois, France, Demolition of the span was order regardless of cost. To achieve visibility necessary for destruction of the bridge it was necessary to descend below clouds to 6500 feet, an altitude usually considered extremely hazardous for four-engine bombers. From this height the target was reduced to a heap of smoking rubble. It was the first low-level bombing ever performed by four motored bombers from England.

Earlier the group had been officially commended by General Doolittle for combat achievement on its first mission, an attack on Berlin and the longest initial assault ever flown in the European theater. The attack was one of the heaviest daylight bombings of the German capital on record.

During its first 100 missions, "overcoming adverse weather conditions and fierce enemy fighter and anti-aircraft oppositions," the group attacked 41 targets in Germany and 59 targets in enemy-occupied Europe. Forty seven hundred (4700) tons of bombs were dropped on vital enemy installations.

The public can expect no relief from existing paper shortages until about the middle of 1945 because of the heavy wartime requirements of newsprint, magazine and book paper and the man

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power shortages in this industry the war Production Board reports.

TALENT

(Continued from page 1)

pect by a large limb striking him was released from the Sacred Heart hospital Wednesday.

The Women's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist church of Talent will hold a bazaar in the city hall Friday, November 17, beginning at 1:30 p.m. Aprons, tea towels, holders and other articles suitable for Christmas gifts will be on sale.

The Rev. Sarn Cassells of the Sudan Interior Mission gave an illustrated lecture at the Friends Church in Talent Friday night at 7:30 P. M. Pictures were shown by Cassells of conditions, in leper colonies.

The annual election of officers took place at the Talent Grange November 2 with the following results; Master, Lloyd Lacy; Over Seer, Eton Petri; lecturer, Mrs. Ethel Lacy; Steward, Harry Hamilton; assistant steward, Steve Limak; Chaplain, Mrs. Margaret Mathes; gate keeper, Gordon Talbot; secretary, Mrs. Carolyn Steward; treasurer George Hartley; Cevals, Miss Margaret Strahan; Pomona, Mrs. Lena Talbot; Flora, Mrs. Anna Limak; Executive committee, C. E. Borg; Lady assistant Steward, Mrs. Margaret Hamilton and musician Mrs. B. R. Talbot. The Grange will hold a pie social at the next meeting November 16. Each lady is asked to bring a pie.

Mrs. Ella McMahan returned home Friday from Ashland where she spent the past two weeks visiting friends. Mr. and Mrs. Floyd G. Goin

and son of Prospect visited at the home of Mrs. Goin's parents Mr. and Mrs. Bob Logan.

Mr. and Mrs. George O. Kerby of Belview were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Cowdrey. The Talent Fire department was called out at eleven o'clock Monday night to the Davis feed store where some ground feed was afire. A large crowd gathered and the fire was soon put out without much loss.

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