

SOUTHERN OREGON MINER

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"MAY I SERVE YOU"

The customer is going to be right again one of these days. Insolence, indolence, and incompetence will be war casualties in the reconversion to courtesy which an open labor market will insure. Employers will be released from the verbal repression they have been forced to undergo for three and a half long years, and certain marked employees will either be released or transferred to positions which require no contact with the public.

Windshields will be wiped once more, free air become a bit freer. Apologies need no longer precede a request for the privilege of making a purchase. And while menus may still merely be exercising poetic license in listing filet mignon and lamb chops, diners can venture an order without having that withering "Don't you know . . ." thrown in their teeth.

There are, of course, a great many employees who throughout the war have continued to give courteous, efficient service. They will find that courtesy and efficiency pays off in job continuity, and employer appreciation. Others will have to learn the finer meanings of service if they are to hold their own in a peacetime labor field.—*The Christian Science Monitor.*

PASTE THIS IN YOUR HAT

Writing in Newsweek, Ralph Robey states a few facts that every private citizen should paste in his hat, and this goes double for every public official having authority to spend tax dollars. Almost every day some new plan is proposed for spending a hundred million, 500 million, or even a billion tax dollars of the people's money. Mr. Robey suggests that we stop and think where all of this money is coming from—certainly not from the men in the legislative bodies who propose spending it. He points to twelve years of depression after 1929 and asks the question, "Are those the years in which we accumulated the great riches we now propose to deal out so lavishly? . . . For the nation as a whole those were years when we had to draw down, not increase our backlog of wealth."

"We have produced an incredible amount of goods. But it has been, or is in the process of being largely destroyed. A nation does not become wealthy by destroying wealth. Wherein, then, do we get the idea that we are now so rich that we no longer need to think a second time about spending a few billions here and there? The answer really is quite simple. It is to be found in the fact that we have not paid for the war as we went along."

The billions of dollars of bonds and deposits and paper money we now have for the most part represent goods which no longer exist. If they are worth anything in the future, said Mr. Robey, it will be only because they are validated by new production. That's what the politicians and the people must remember, when they talk about spending more billions for peacetime public projects which are not absolutely necessary. We are coming out of this war a much poorer nation and we can afford much less today than we could ten years ago. Government should offer every possible encouragement to individuals and industry to produce and save and create new wealth, and cut its own expenses to the bone.

Paste this in your hat, for you will need it.

WHY JAPAN SURRENDERED

The surrender talks at General MacArthur's headquarters in Manila produced many columns of newspaper articles, but as yet little hard news. One important piece of information, however, was released.

On the basis of statements by the Japanese surrender envoys, American estimates of damage done to the Japanese fleet were more than confirmed. In fact they were shown to have been too conservative.

In the furious air-sea battles which have fought from Midway to Japan's Inland Sea, our naval and air forces have destroyed all but 55 of Japan's 382 warships. Of the 55 surviving vessels, 26 are destroyers, of which four are heavily damaged; 22 are submarines, of which six are German.

That leaves only seven major warships, all heavily damaged and unfit for use. These are: one battleship, two heavy and two light carriers, and two cruisers. We have sunk 11 battleships, seven heavy carriers, six light carriers, five escort carriers, 41 cruisers, 139 destroyers and 118 submarines.

As to the Japanese merchant fleet, all that is left of 7,000,000 tons of shipping is less than 1,500,000 tons, "counting all very small ships and very few suitable for long voyages."

There is no parallel in naval history for such overwhelming disaster. This is one reason why Japan asked Russia to negotiate peace last June—long before she knew anything about the atomic bomb.

PURE WHITWASH

The long-expected report on who was responsible for the disaster at Pearl Harbor has been at least given to the public. And as we had more or less expected, the report certainly covered up any shortcomings of the two top army and navy men in command at Pearl Harbor at the time. It was pure whitewash, and nothing else.

Where to place the blame, we admit, would be hard. If one started out to place any blame, it would of necessity go through most of our government at that time. For our government officials, from the top down through the war and navy departments, the state departments and especially onto congress, must share in the blame. Short and Kimmel, who were in command at Pearl Harbor, we think, should be charged with a decided negligence of duty, and not whitewashed and allowed to go free.

The report as given by President Truman places the blame on the people of the United States. If we remember right, several Gallop polls at that time, found the people of the United States favoring a much bigger defense program than was under way at the time.

Our own personal viewpoint of the matter is, that our army and navy leaders wanted to get into the war, although they knew we were not ready at the time of Pearl Harbor. They knew too, that the Amer-

ican people would never favor an outright declaration of war, and while they have been accused of "egging" the Japs on, we think it amounted more to a passive attempt to settle differences. With the attack on Pearl Harbor, American sentiment rose to a fever pitch and the military leaders in an hours time, had the whole-hearted support of the American nation to revenge the Pearl Harbor disaster.

We suspect too, that some of our huge manufacturing and construction businesses had a hand in the matter, knowing the big profits to be made from "cost plus 10%" which was allowed on government contracts. If several members of congress decide to force a further investigation, via the congressional committee route, they have a long and arduous job ahead of them, and one that will reach into many bureaus and to many people. But we agree with them that the affair needs more airing than was given it in the report released a few days ago.

ASHLAND'S HOUSE NUMBERS

One of the things most needed, we think, is a renumbering of houses in Ashland. We do not know how the haphazard numbering of residences came about in Ashland, but the cold fact is that all of them should be discarded and a new system of numbering and a reshuffling of numbers is badly needed and right now. One has only to wander about through the residential district to find that many of the numbers are badly mixed up, on the wrong side of the street, etc.

To straighten out such a condition will take considerable effort on the part of the city, and the residents here. No doubt many of them would fight such a move, after having house numbers these many years, but the job needs to be done, and we think should be pushed vigorously by the city, the post office, gas company, and others who have need to make the rounds of the city.

Other and larger cities have had to do this very procedure in the past. It is only a condition growing out of a town growing into a city, with no system of numbering houses made when the town was small. Ashland has every indication of growing, with many new homes in prospect and right now would be a good time to start such a campaign.

Hunger Breeds War

By Ruth Taylor

Have you ever been hungry? Really hungry - every day for hungry that food became the only important thing in the world? weeks and months and years? So important that you would do anything to get it?

Have you ever seen anyone you love slowly dying for want of food? Have you ever heard the whimpering cry of a hungry child? Have you ever known a hunger so great that you would bargain your freedom to satisfy it?

Unfortunately, peace and plenty are not synonymous. The guns are stilled, the war is won. But the battle of peace has just begun. Unless we can win that struggle, the great losses we have suffered will have been in vain.

Our President sounded a warning and a challenge in his message to the nation on his return from Potsdam: "Europe today is hungry . . . Desperate men are liable to destroy the structure of their society to find in the wreckage some substitute for hope. If

we let Europe go cold and hungry, we may lose some of the foundations of order on which the hope for world wide peace must rest."

Our future welfare is inseparably intertwined with the future welfare of the men and women and children of the world. "To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind." So begins the Preamble to the World Charter.

Totalitarianism feeds on ignorance and indifference. Let it not be our indifference. Only quick action can help to tide Europe over the food and fuel crisis this winter and avoid the inevitable consequences of political and economic chaos.

Here is what you the average American citizen, can do:

- (1) Urge the government to send the maximum amount possible of food and fuel to liberated areas.
- (2) Use food in plentiful supply and avoid the use of those foods needed for export.
- (3) Join in salvage campaigns.
- (4) Boycott black markets - remember it takes a buyer as well as a seller to keep black markets



The Bell System—the largest source of Radar for our fighting forces

This is not surprising for Radar development and production stems from the same roots that produced and continue to nourish this country's telephone system.

Radar, the instrument which enabled our land, sea and air forces to spot enemy targets

through darkness, smoke or fog, was one of the outstanding fighting instruments of the war.

Two years before Pearl Harbor the Government asked Bell Telephone Laboratories to put its wide experience and knowledge of electronics to work to help perfect Radar as a military instrument. From then on the Laboratories cooperated closely in the Radar program with the National Defense Research Committee, with Army and Navy specialists, and with scientists of Great Britain.

The Western Electric Company, manufacturing branch of the Bell System, became the Nation's largest supplier of Radar systems. One type it made was universally used by B-29's in the Pacific for navigation, target location and high altitude bombing. Another played an important part in aiming the guns on our warships.

If you're waiting for a home telephone, it helps a little to know that Radar is one of the reasons. For years telephone manufacturing plants were devoted to war needs.

THE PACIFIC TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH CO.

going.

(5) Accept cheerfully the continuance of such restrictions as are necessary for the fulfillment of our promises to our Allies.

This is not a mere philanthropic appeal. It is the considered opinion of all of our statesmen, no matter to what party they belong, that food now can prevent a third World War. With all our "shortages" we are the best fed country in the world.

Is postponement of a rise in that already high standard too high a price to pay for peace?

The Low Down from Hickory Grove . . .

I just been reading about this Beveridge person in England—the duck who is preaching security and comfort at Govt. expense, and without work or perspiration. Everybody must be happy. And if the gent should put over his deal, he, himself, would be in the top spot—and need to perspire least.

In his scheme the Govt. would own the means of production—the stores—factories. The citizens would be employees only. The Govt. would fix wages. Every citizen could then stop thinking—and sit down with nothing to stew about—and wait for the undertaker. And that is supposed to make people happy.

But here in our land of the free we should not guffaw too loud—we do funny stunts, too.

But this Mr. Beveridge—he would even say on which corner there would be a grocery store. And grocery stores being my weakness, I speak up. These serveyourself outfits in our U.S.A., the ones where you have the run of the range and are free to roam and sniff—they are up my alley. Anybody ever starting talk about a Beveridge style store for my neighborhood is gonna lose some of his tail feathers.

Yours with the low down,
JO SERRA

Oregon Motor Registration Rises

Motor vehicle registration in Oregon at the end of the first

seven months of 1945 totaled 408,406, compared to 405,006 vehicles a year ago, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell disclosed today. The registration at the end of July thus showed an increase of 3,400 vehicles.

Of the total of 408,406 vehicles registered in Oregon, 322,671, or 79 percent are private passenger cars. Last year at this same time, there were 323,353 passenger cars registered in the state.

Registration fees for the seven months this year totaled \$3,454,443.07, compared to \$3,345,292.94 a year ago.

Central Point to Have Water Bond Election

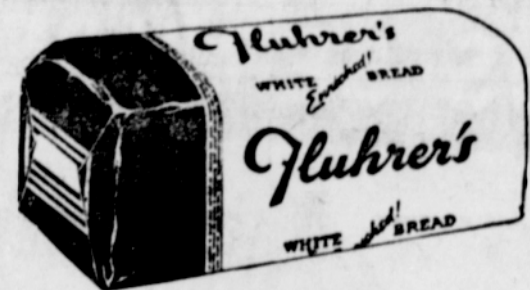
Central Point is preparing for a municipal election early in September on the proposed issuance of bonds to provide funds for a new water supply. As proposed in the coming election, two measures will be voted upon. The first is to issue bonds for the construction of a pipe line to connect with the Medford city water system, and the second proposition is that of raising funds for a new water distributing system in the city of Central Point.

It was pointed out that the present distributing system was built in 1911, and rebuilt in 1928, and is now in bad shape with many serious leaks due to the rusting of the steel pipes. Inasmuch as the Medford water system is under a pressure of 110 pounds, the present Central Point system could not absorb that high a pressure, and that it would be necessary to rebuild the distributing system should connection be made with the Medford water system.

Victory Loan Drive Oct. 29th to Dec. 8th

Clocks will go back an hour to standard time soon after congress reconvenes next month, it appeared this week.

President Truman indicated as much yesterday, and today War Production Chief J. A. Krug told senate and house leaders statutory war time is no longer necessary.

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