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OREGON NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Are We Too Soft?

A FEW days ago we wrote an editorial entitled, "Are we getting soft?", dealing with the matter of enlistments in the National Guard.

We find some of our readers didn't like it. Others did. This is a common experience in this business, so calls for no particular comment.

But the nature of some of the criticisms,—only one being signed and that not for publication,—is important, and does deserve comment.

In fact in view of the announcement in yesterday's Oregonian, that Dorothy Thompson has already declared war on Nazi Germany, we feel certain the spirit the above query and current answers to it represent, are destined to become more and more important, as time goes on.

For, if this country is going to get into the war against Germany EVENTUALLY,—and we grant we are getting nearer and nearer to it every day,—and if, as Arthur Lippmann has maintained, we have during the past quarter century of peace, become soft as a nation, then this is a fact that is going to be of SUPREME importance when the call to arms, finally sounds.

For if we DO get into this war, there will have to be some fighting done, and needless to say, a nation gone soft isn't either inclined to fight, or if compelled to do so, isn't very effective at it.

SO we repeat, these criticisms of the editorial in question, we believe, ARE important, for there is no reason to believe the people of this community feel any differently than the people of other communities in this country.

In fact there being practically no foreign element here, it seems reasonable to assume, that the disposition to defend and uphold (if need be, by force) American institutions and the American "way of life," is stronger in Southern Oregon than in most parts of the state, or country.

Yet if these anonymous criticisms are at all typical of this community as a whole, there are many at least of our fellow countrymen hereabouts, who not only regard the theme of that editorial as "war mongering," but see,—or think they see,—a J. P. Morgan conspiracy to get this country involved in another European holocaust, and if this is done, "the real simon-pure, 100% Americans will—and should—refuse to fight!"

"Why send our boys overseas to be slaughtered to help the international bankers, and put a prop under the decadent nobility of England and France?"

Yes, we think a reaction of that sort IS important. For the editorial in question did not advocate America entering the war (in fact this paper opposes it, on the ground we can MORE effectively aid the cause of democracy, by rushing materials, rather than men, to Europe)—but did advocate as a part of a preparedness program, the bringing of our National Guard up to normal strength, and deplored the fact that in spite of two weeks of appeal and publicity, there had been but one to volunteer for such service.

NOW that seems to this department a perfectly reasonable—and even orthodox—position to take in view of the world situation at the present moment. Far from wanting war, we are convinced the stronger we become, the more likelihood there will be of keeping out of it.

BUT we certainly won't be able to keep out of it, if not only Germany but Japan become convinced that this country is so strongly pacifist, the popular feeling against war, so widespread and deep, that nothing but actual armed invasion from abroad will ever get us into it. (If that were the case how long would it be before the Fifth column had Mexico, and Nippon the Dutch East Indies!)

And again if these reactions above mentioned are at all representative of American opinion, isn't it reasonable to fear that such a view will become established in foreign lands,—and as far as that goes,—be justified?

SO we believe this is a matter of considerable importance, considering the state of the world at the present writing. And a serious effort should be made to find out what public opinion really is, and particularly the opinion of youth, regarding war. For needless to say if there should be war, it would be youth, not bald-headed editors, or venerable members of the D. A. R. who would have to do the fighting and the dying in it. (And incidentally—let us grant those who have to do the fighting and supply the fighters in case of war should have the most to say about getting into it!)

FINALLY we can think of no better way to close this subject than to quote Mr. Archibald MacLeish, librarian of congress and poet, who when called upon to comment, upon the fact that 1500 undergraduates of Yale, signed a petition urging this country to keep out of the European war,—and a similar petition at Harvard, less generously signed, which expressed distaste for serving in the armed forces of this country, expressed himself as below.

He started out by commenting on the first world war literature, decrying war, and upon which our present American youth were brought up:—

"These and many like them were books (post-war books by such authors as Hemingway, Dos Passos, Latzko and Addington) written not only against the hatefulness and cruelty and filthiness of war but written also against the fine phrases and the rhetorical formulae by which war was made."

"These are the honest words of honest men, writers of great skill and integrity and devotion. They say what all of us after the war would have said if we could. They say what all of us who were in the war believed. But

they are nevertheless words that have borne bitter and dangerous fruits.

"Their effect has been to immunize the young generation against any attempt in its own country by its own leaders to foment a war by waving moral flags and rhetorical phrases.

But they have left it defenseless before an aggressor ready to force war upon us. Above all, they have left it defenseless against an aggressor whose cynicism, brutality, and whose stated intention to enslave present the issue of the future in moral terms.

"The post-war writers who educated a generation to suspect the tags, the slogans, and 'even the words,' left that generation defenseless before an aggressor whose whole strength consists in destroying respect of law, respect of morality, respect for the Word.

"I am not undertaking to judge these writers. I have no right to judge them, and if I did my hands would be tied because I felt as they did and wrote, so far as I was able, as they were writing. What I do undertake to maintain is that what they wrote, however noble it may have been as literature, however true as a summary of experience, was disastrous as education for a generation which would be obliged to face the threat of fascism in its adult years.

"What I maintain further is this: That unless we regain in this democracy the conviction that there are final things for which democracy will fight—unless we recover faith in the expression of these things in words—we can leave our planes unbuilt and our battleships on paper, for we shall not need them."

Personal Health Service

By William Brady, M. D.

Signed letters pertaining to personal health and hygiene, not to disease diagnosis or treatment, will be answered by Dr. Brady if a stamped self-addressed envelope is enclosed. Letters should be brief and written in ink. Owing to the large numbers of letters received only a few can be answered. No reply can be made to queries not conforming to instructions. Address: Dr. William Brady, 263 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif.

THE REFRIGERATION OF BACON

George Washington became president at the age of 57 years and died in 1799 at the age of 67 years. That was less than 140 years ago, yet we are without any knowledge of the cause of Washington's death. Was it diphtheria, pneumonia, lung cancer, or was the man bled to death? It does not seem that a man of Washington's good living habits and strong constitution would be greatly injured by the loss of a half pint of blood 16 hours before death and another half pint perhaps eight hours before death, in an acute illness. Nobody knows what caused George Washington's death.



Sir Francis Bacon died 314 years ago, of refrigeration. I would not go so far as to say that Bacon froze to death, but I have it on the authority of that distinguished clinician, Frederic J. Haskin, that Bacon died as the "result of a cold caught during an experimentation on the refrigeration of fresh meat."

That reminds me—two days before Washington's final illness he came back from a ride to his farms with his collar still wet and snow hanging upon his hair, and sat right down to dinner without changing to dry clothes. Will some one kindly find out whether this circumstance had anything to do with Washington's illness?

If a trick doctor so far forgot himself as to file with his health department a report of illness as a "cold" or sign a death certificate like that, he would find himself called upon for an explanation. No one seriously recognizes "cold" as a rational explanation of illness or death. The term is just a meaningless, we can't say harmless one for filling in the blank or silent space when you don't know what really is the matter.

In my files are enough abstracts, clippings and reprints from current medical literature (not lay publications) to fill a set of books that would make Dr. Elliott's lot look miniature. Yet in all this imposing chatter it is hard to find an observation or a fact that stands for

season to season. Although it is filed under the heading of "Cold," in order to keep the filing system in order, some day when my secretary isn't here I'm going to transfer it to another and more fitting heading, viz., Malarkey. (Medical).

Nearly every day some wise-acre asks peevishly why in the name of—well, let us say better health do I insist in calling the common cold by a name nobody understands or uses, and just what difference it makes anyway whether a person calls it cold or cri? Here there is room to mention only three reasons: (1) because cold has nothing to do with the illness or indisposition; (2) because cri (kree) means merely Common Respiratory Infection, is non-committal as to the precise nature of the infection, but still conveys fair warning to all concerned, and so has some prophylactic value in itself.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Ethyl Gasoline

Please state whether a person could contract lead poisoning from driving in a closed car using tetra-ethyl leaded gasoline, or from handling ethyl gasoline in tank wagon or filling station work. (A. H. P.)

Ans.—During eight years, 72 possible cases among filling station attendants and similar workers were investigated by experts of the U. S. Public Health Service, but lead was not found a factor in any of the cases. The present opinion, based on careful study and observation, is that there is very little danger of lead poisoning from that source.

Baby Book

What, you actually have a baby? Accept my applause, and also, if you will provide a stamped envelope bearing your address, a complimentary copy of the Brady Better & Bigger Baby Book. The envelope must be of standard size, properly stamped and addressed. If it is a dinky envelope or not stamped or addressed, "Local" or "City" your baby will have to struggle along without Dr. Brady's counsel and advice, that's all. Your request must be mailed before July 1.

Vite Is Another Name for It

I received your most instructive booklet "Reserve Power" about two months ago and can say that it has already done more things for me than I thought possible. I am enjoying life for the first time in years. (A. C. MacN.)

Ans.—The booklet deals with extension of the prime of life in both directions. For copy send stamped envelope bearing your address, and ask for "Reserve Power."

(Protected by John F. Dille Co.)

Ed. Note: Persons wishing to communicate with Dr. Brady should send letter direct to Dr. William Brady, M. D., 263 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif.

THE CAPITAL PARADE

By JOSEPH ALSOP and ROBERT KINTNER

Released by the North American Newspaper Alliance, Inc.

Washington, June 8.—Like all the best political stories, the story behind the increase in the national defense tax bill is partly ludicrous and partly stirring. The joke is on the surface, being the spectacle of Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi encouraging his colleagues to rebellion in one breath, and in the next solemnly warning the house leaders and treasury authorities, "I can't hold them; I just can't hold my boys."

The original tax bill was a makeshift. Having been written from the administration by the extraordinary phenomenon of American citizens delegating the government with demands for higher taxes, it still contained traces of the original administration theory that taxes in an election year were sure political

He greatly disliked the notion of radical tax revision at this season, but the thought of radical revision in the senate, followed by a long conference struggle between senate and house, was even more repugnant to him. Consequently, he agreed to go along. Monrathau also approved, and in the last days Doughton's committee has been working hard, with Harrison acting as a sort of senate observer, on a bill planned on radical revision lines.

What is stirring about the story is the intimation of the patriotism and good sense of the average American, without whose ever increasing insistence on a tax program the radical revisionists could never have succeeded.

La Follette, for example, has been preaching a broadened income tax base for the last 10 years, always without success because of congress' fear of the political consequences, now, on the very eve of the presidential election, 2,000,000 or more people are to be added to the list of taxpayers—and all because the congress is convinced that taxes have suddenly become good politics.

The tax story is by no means at an end, either. In a remarkable speech, some days ago, Senator Byrd proposed a program of national defense expenditures far higher than the president has asked, accompanied by still more daring taxes and a 10 per cent cut in government expenditures except those for defense. Shortly thereafter, without mentioning the Virginian, the White House indicated that all government expenditures ought to be cut 10 per cent wherever possible.

Now Byrd is going to take the president at his word, offering an amendment to the tax bill making the 10 per cent cut mandatory in all items except defense and the interest on the public debt. The temper of the times is such, furthermore, that little as the administration may like the Byrd amendment, it will be extremely hard to resist.

Then too treasury and federal reserve officials and new dealers close to the White House are beginning to murmur a little about the new tax plans. In the next session they had always expected to introduce an excess profits tax, aimed at the large profits from rearmament. There was considerable pressure on Harrison and Doughton to include excess profits taxes in the program now before congress, but they refused on the ground that there was no time to write a good bill of such complex character.

It is quite possible, however, that the president will suddenly demand an excess profits tax, taking a fling at war profiteers, before the summer adjournment. And if he retracts his natural impulse now but is re-elected, he will certainly follow the original scheme to ask for an excess profits tax next January.

AT THE National Capitol WITH John W. Kelly

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

JIMMIE (Golden Boy) Cromwell, who married Doris Duke, heiress, told the Canadians the United States should join the allies—then resigned as minister to run for senator of New Jersey. Bill Bullitt, missed by a German bomb in the raid on Paris, at a French dinner assured his hosts that America would back them up—still repaying Lafayette.

Adin on the home scene, William Allen White heads an organization to get the limit for the allies, and the organization has some big names of the "right people," none, of course, of military age.

Bit by bit the neutrality wall is being battered down. Concessions are being made, a little here, a little there. No longer is it necessary to take a British-bought plane and push it across the Canadian border to make a delivery. American pilots can take their aircraft and fly them to Newfoundland, if necessary, and may yet be permitted to turn them across the Atlantic. Agitation has started for American naval vessels to convoy merchantmen. The administration is taking steps to blockade supplies intended for Germany by way of Vladivostok.

Except theoretically, the United States is no longer neutral and "short of war" is a silent partner of the allies.

FOR the first time in history a great political party on the eve of its convention is discussing not someone for president, but for vice president. It is Roosevelt by acclamation (if Jim Farley and Jack Garner withdraw their names). The war has settled that. But what concerns the Democratic party now is selection of a running mate for F. D. R.

Never before has such a situation developed where interest centers on the title of the ticket. Current best bet is Senator Jim Byrnes, of South Carolina, who is closer to Mr. Roosevelt than any other man "on the hill."

RUPTURED?

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In The Day's News

By Frank Jenkins

THERE are interesting slants in the news today (Friday). The French claim to have destroyed 400 of the 2000 tanks the Germans are said to have thrown into the big battle now raging.

Their tank-trapping technique (as hazily described in the censored dispatches) is intriguing. The term "swinging gate" is applied to it today in the dispatches. Apparently the tanks are allowed to pass through the front lines with little resistance and are then hammered from ambush with anti-tank guns, machine guns and 75s firing point-blank—hit "with everything but the kitchen sink," as we Americans say.

A NOTHER development shows up in the news for the first time today.

The tops of the German tanks (covered with a lid somewhat like the manhole of a sewer, are their weakest spots, so the allies hastily bolted fair-sized cannon to the bottoms of their planes and with these improvised flying batteries they are pounding the nazi tanks from above.

A NOTHER hint—that may be merely wishful thinking.

Allied observers report that the German dive bombers (the dreaded Stukas that worked such havoc at the start of the big western front push) appear to be less numerous and less daring than at the beginning. These observers comment that this involves no apparent breaking of the German morale but dive bombing is such a strain on the pilots that human endurance can stand up under it only so long.

There are notes here and there to the effect that German infantry is beginning to move into the battle lines in more or less the old manner of warfare, with less dependence on mechanized units.

NOTE also that in rearranging his lines for the final and desperate defense of Paris General Weygand abandoned entirely the idea of relatively thin, strongly fortified lines of defense, such as the Maginot, and introduced the idea of "deep lines," which you have seen commented on so much in the past two days.

The Germans broke through the former thin lines too easily and once behind them worked havoc with their swiftly moving mechanized units. The purpose of the deep lines is to pocket the tanks and other machines and destroy them before they can get clear through.

IT IS far too early to predict that the power of the German drive is ebbing, but these new developments (if accurately reported) do at least indicate pretty surely that the French and the British are getting over their first shock of dazed surprise and are fighting not only bravely but RESOURCEFULLY.

To Postal Parley
 Washington, June 8.—(P)—A representative of the post office department will attend the Oregon Federation of Post Office Clerks' convention, June 22-23, at Eugene. Senator McNary was advised today.

British Envoy Caught
 Berlin, June 8.—(P)—The British ambassador to Brussels, Sir Lancelot Oliphant, was captured with British expeditionary force troops left behind in France. DNB, official Germany news agency, announced today.

Flight O' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of the Mail Tribune 10 and 20 years ago.

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY
 June 9, 1930.
 (It was Monday)
 State bankers to convene here. Four local banks show prosperity.

Heat wave over state near end, weatherman predicts.

Fishing reported good at Diamond Lake.

Ned Harrell, Medford youth graduates at Naval academy with special honors.

Jacksonville Masonic lodge is 75 years old.

Census shows Jackson county has 32,905 people.

New black and tan auto licenses ready June 15.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY
 June 9, 1920.
 (It was Tuesday)
 Governor Lowden of Illinois, GOP presidential candidate declares "Let us end our own woes first, and then Europe's".

Dorothy Dalton in "The Dark Mirror" at the Liberty; A. C. Allen's picture of local and nature pictures at the Rialto.

"America First" is keynote of Republican convention. Sen. Lodge in first talk says "defeat of Woodrow Wilson dynasty, and all it stands for, transcends all other issues, along with the restoration of fundamental ideals trampled on while war raged."

New reichstag near in Germany.

Construction of Medford irrigation started with 100 men and teams employed.

BRITISH EXPERTS SAY NAZI FOOD IS RUNNING LOW

London, June 8.—(P)—Dr. Hugh Dalton, minister of economic warfare, told the British people in a broadcast tonight that "streaks of shortage are spreading like wells across the economic body of Germany."

Britain's economic warfare, Dr. Dalton said, is forcing Germans to live on accumulated stocks and "in this colossal effort she is expending them, eating into them at a tremendous rate."

"She can never replace them now and stocks that Hitler had stolen by his marauding expeditions in Denmark, Norway and the low countries are very small compared with his vast needs."

Hitler, he said, has not improved Germany's economic position by the Denmark and low country move. He pointed out that these countries depended on imports.

Hitler "may plunder enough from the enslaved little countries to feed his hungry people during this summer," Dr. Dalton said, "but as summer turns into autumn he begins to lose many of the normal exports from these countries into Germany."

"Hitler and his advisers will put on solemn faces when they speak of oil."

The Allies have virtually cut off the Germans from rubber, ferro-alloys, oilseeds, cotton and wool, all key war supplies, Dr. Dalton said.

British golf courses are being used for rifle ranges to train volunteer civil defense guards.

Ye Smudge Pot

By ARTHUR FERRY

Despite the war in Europe, and hysteria throughout this land, the meadow-larks still sing: "Everything's all right! Everything's all right!"

June brides are quite plentiful hereabouts, and were never prettier, as they are every June.

Having in the order of the day in the rural areas, and the younger farmers are coming to town in the evenings, looking for hay-hands, and dressed up like they were going to make a social call.

An aunt from Klamath is visiting the Jno. Wilkinson boy Don, who aims to be a second-baseman.

A bell was put on the Elks' tom-cat Wed. so the birds would know he was sneaking up on them. The bell remained around his neck, all of two minutes.

E. Ulrich, the Prospect mt. wmn. towned Fri. coming down to trade and eat lunch with a soup & sing group.

During the past week, the French used an overgrown mud-hole to stop the nazi tanks, as effectively as a bunch of steers on Crater Lake Hwy near E. Point.

Due to not being as handy with a golf stick as a screw-driver, H. Flewther the demon baker was vanquished by G. Harrington. The loser was defeated but not disgraced.

Jno. Niedermeyer, a promising young man, has announced he will be liable for a shivaree in the fall.

Vegetation of all kinds is growing like the dickens, including the weeds, that never get any hoeing, harrowing, cultivating, pruning, or watering, but get there just the same.

Mussolini of Italy is so cordially hated in these parts, if he came to town, the CoC. would throw pearls at him, instead of giving him a box, along with the keys to the city.

Winning candidates were notified last week officially they had been elected, which the majority already knew. With so many rumors in circulation, it is just as well to play safe.

The softball season opened Tues. eve with a parade, during which the athletes were eclipsed by two drum corps, and a bevy of majorettes. On the field of action all did noble, and rushed up to get acquainted with the pitcher, every time anything happened.

Idle rumors have been the busiest the past week, since the "Great Grand Jury" planned to demonstrate how things should be run, and, all the leaders had folks who reached these shores on the Mayflower.

FRENCH SAY 400 NAZI TANKS LOST

New York, June 8.—(P)—The French government radio estimated that 400 more German tanks were destroyed yesterday, a British news broadcast heard at the Columbia Broadcasting System's station said today.

This would make 800 tanks of Germany's original force of 2,000 reported destroyed since the battle of the Somme began.

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