

Kelly's Comment

From Washington, D. C.

**Davis Ignored
By Army, Navy
Nelson, Somervell
Stage Contest
Ickes Picks Man
For Power Board**

By John W. Kelly

Washington, D. C., July 17.—Army and navy are taking the bit in their teeth and ignoring Elmer Davis, who is supposed to give the public all war information, and are now fighting Donald Nelson to see who will control production. As a dispenser of news Davis is licked already and probably he wishes he had back his \$20,000 job as a radio commentator. First, Mr. Davis proposed that the army and navy revise the method of revealing what is taking place in Alaska; come clean and tell the public the lowdown, keeping back, of course, any detail that might be a military secret. Well, so far as Elmer Davis knew or the public was aware everything in Alaska or the Aleutians was the deepest, darkest military secret. If army or navy had something good to report it comes out in a communique eventually; if there are reverses, there is no news for John Q. Citizen.

Every step in the invasion of America, via the Aleutians, became known through Japanese broadcasts. Spokesmen for the armed services discredited these



FLYING FORTRESS, NEW MODEL—High above a rugged stretch of landscape speeds this Boeing B-17E, described by the war department as "bigger and more deadly" than previous "flying fortress" models. Several U. S. plants now make the planes.

broadcasts; began with vigorous denial that Japanese had obtained a foothold anywhere. Even now Japanese newscasters report additional transports with troops arriving in the Aleutians with neither confirmation nor denial from the American

spokesmen—the latter simply ignore enemy statements. The small crumbs of information granted by the army and navy announced a transport sunk, a carrier sunk or damaged. Yet through the pea-soup fog which handicaps the defenders the Japanese move forward ever closer to the mainland.

ELMER Davis believed the public is entitled to some news of the trial of the saboteurs; army said no, so Davis went to the White House with Henry L. Stimson, secretary of war. The executive order creating the job of Davis was supposed to give him control of all news. The president notified Davis that his authority did not extend to news of army and navy. Right there Elmer Davis was whipped and the hopes of the newspapers that through Davis the press would print straight, factual news on the war and not merely sprightly headlines vanished.

As in the past, the army will issue its own communique; ditto the navy, at their own sweet will, without regard to press hour deadlines. Elmer Davis or any other civilian. There are good, practical, experienced reporters (with Washington and Oregon well represented) in the intelligence and public relations services, but they do not make the policy; that is attended to by the brass hats at the top. It was supposed that Davis would coordinate the news releases of army and navy, which have occasionally been at odds, but he cannot do this. (First communique on the Midway island battle was released by the navy and took all the credit; then army issued a communique and related what the army and marine planes did. Rivalry and jealousy continue bitter between the two armed services notwithstanding the war).

FOR weeks an undercover contest has been in progress between Donald Nelson of war production board and Gen. Breton B. Somervell, in charge of supplies for the army, wherever the army is. The general became quite tough, but Nelson became tougher, insisting that as head of WPB he had been appointed to control the materials going into the war effort. Army intended taking over anything it wished, regardless of navy, maritime commission or civilian needs. Nelson proposes providing for requirements of the navy (warships), the army (tanks), maritime commission (freight carriers), and railroads (locomotives and rails), spreading out

the steel and copper to meet as many demands as possible and still hold back tanks, if necessary, to furnish steel for cargo ships and plane carriers, adjusting production to break bottlenecks. Mr. Nelson has not always displayed such backbone; he succumbed to the theory of the war department that an aluminum rolling mill should not be in the mid-Columbia area as it would be a target for Japanese bombers, so he approved its location at Spokane.

FOR that vacant place on the power policy board Secretary Ickes is checking up on a first class engineer who has had a hand in two large power dams. The prospect is now in the army and has been and is building the largest air fields in America. If Ickes is satisfied with his background next step is to try to get him out of the army, which may require the aid of the president. "What I want," says Ickes, "is someone who is power-minded."

NORTHWEST shipyards can expect to repair any Norwegian vessels that are operated under the direction of the shipping agency of the federal government. This is a part of the lease-lease plan, with the further provision that any Norwegian ship that is destroyed by the enemy will be replaced by merchant vessels built in American yards.

Notice to Creditors
In the County Court of the State of Oregon in and for Jackson County.

In the Matter of the Estate of Henry S. Anning, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Mae Tucker Anning, has been duly appointed, and has qualified as Administratrix of the estate of the above named Henry S. Anning, (also sometimes known as Henry Anning), deceased; All parties having any claim against the estate of the said decedent are hereby notified and required to present same duly verified as by law required, at the office of F. J. Newman, Attorney for said estate, in the Craterian Building in Medford, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice. Dated and first published on this 17th day of July, A. D. 1942.

MAE TUCKER ANNING,
Administratrix of the Estate of Henry S. Anning, Deceased.

SPLIT WITH AXIS HELD NOT LIKELY AS ORTIZ QUIT

Resignation Places Conservative Dr. Castillo in Presidency of Argentina.

New York—(UP)—The resignation of President Roberto M. Ortiz, of Argentina, who had been in semi-retirement due to partial blindness and other ailments since July, 1940, has deferred the hopes of pro-allied political leaders that their government might sever relations with the axis.

The resignation places the conservative Dr. Ramon S. Castillo in the presidency in his own right. He was elected vice-president in 1938, has served "in the exercise of the presidency" for the past two years, and the constitution provides that in the case of resignation of the president, the vice-president shall succeed him until the end of the regularly elected term, which in this instance expires Feb. 20, 1944.

Castillo has followed a policy of "prudent neutrality," insisting upon the maintenance of normal diplomatic relations with the axis, despite the resolution of the Rio de Janeiro conference of last January, recommending a severance of relations with Germany, Italy and

Japan as a result of the Japanese aggression against the United States.

Position Difficult

The Argentine delegation to the conference of American foreign ministers at Rio de Janeiro led the fight to take the teeth out of the severance resolution by preventing it from becoming mandatory, and Chile supported the Argentine thesis. Today 19 of the 21 American republics are either at war with the axis or have broken relations. Argentina and Chile are the only two countries that still persist in maintenance of relations.

Argentina's position has become a difficult one. A slender majority in the chamber of deputies opposes the administration, and many members of this majority, composed of radical and socialist party congressmen have clamored insistently for a rupture with the axis. German submarines have attacked and torpedoed Argentine ships, damaging the 13,000-ton tanker Victoria and sinking the freighter Rio Tercero with a loss of five lives. The Rio Tercero was sent down off New York but a few days after Germany had apologized and offered reparations for the attack on the Victoria.

Right to Sail Ships

Argentina's note of protest as a result of the Rio Tercero sinking demanded a formal acknowledgment from Germany of the right of Argentine ships to sail all seas unmolested in exercise of the nation's status as a neutral, and it was interpreted as a possible challenge to the German proclamation of a blockade of the east coast of the United States.

Despite the strong protests, however, no indication has been

offered that the Argentine administration contemplated an early break with the axis. In 1917 Germany torpedoed and sank two Argentine ships; Argentina protested, and Germany apologized and later made reparations.

If the same procedure follows in analogous cases of World War II, the Argentine government may feel that the national honor and interests will have been satisfied.

SYNDICAL EXECUTIVE TENDERS RESIGNATION

Eugene, Ore., July 17.—(P)—Dr. James Thomson, Seattle, the syndical executive for Oregon and Washington announced his resignation from the Oregon synod at the afternoon session of the Presbyterian inter meeting here today.

Dr. Thomson has been the executive for the Oregon synod for the past seven years. He began his work with the eastern Washington synod 25 years ago.

The drive to save household fats is expected to net 500,000,000 pounds a year, or enough to make from 50 to 100 million pounds of glycerine; 100 pounds of fats will yield enough glycerine to make 24½ pounds of nitroglycerine.

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Apricots
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FLOUR

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ONIONS New Crop Red 6 lbs. 19c
ORANGES Small Juice Size, Sunkist Quality 2 doz. 29c

Wax Paper
40-Ft. Rolls 5c


12-oz. tins 29c
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12-Oz. Cans 29c
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