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Editor

# Herald and News

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MALCOLM EPLEY  
Managing Editor

## Today's Roundup

By MALCOLM EPLEY

THE story of a modern government bureau's adventure in a small city reaches its denouement in the announcement that the district office of the OPA here is to be discontinued, as such, on July 1.

It is no secret that the OPA office here, despite the fact the community welcomed its establishment, has suffered under a steady fire of public criticism.

This pot-shooting has been more than a local demonstration of the country-wide complaint against certain features of OPA and its methods. It has not meant that the people here are unwilling to submit to the necessary war-time controls imposed by the government.

It has been directed at evidences of extravagance, which are common to government bureau offices of this type but which are not so apparent to the people in a larger city.

People who had been hearing and reading about elaborate and expensive government bureau set-ups watched one develop here in a prominent ground-floor location.

Certain things happened here that stimulated the criticism. The OPA moved in a building full of furniture, installed 35 telephones and a switchboard, etc. But for various reasons, the staff of 55 or 60 originally scheduled to use these facilities was never filled out. The OPA office was notable for open spaces, idle telephones and empty desks.

It was a demonstration of waste that was certain to draw fire. Had all of this occurred in a large city, in offices remotely located in a large building, it would have escaped the public attention it got here.

But here it was very much out in the light of day, and a great many people expressed their opinions about it. To say the least, it was not good politics, and the OPA people probably realize that now.

## Shake-Up Reports

WE do not know whether all of this had anything to do with the decision to discontinue the district office, and make it a field station instead. But there were recurrent reports that regional headquarters complained about the public relations situation relative to the Klamath office.

The formally announced reason for discontinuing the office here was that the Klamath district, with two California counties cut off, was exceptionally small as to the population involved. It was stated that a more efficient administration could be provided in a larger district.

There are rumbles of a general shake-up for the OPA that might have had something to do with the decision to discontinue the office here. The appropriations expected by this bureau have not all materialized, and that is one reason the office here was never fully staffed.

## Politics Slashed District

THERE appears to be no question that politics was responsible for breaking up the logical OPA administrative district originally planned with Klamath Falls as headquarters.

California senators and congressmen balked at the idea of any portions of California being administered by the OPA from headquarters outside that state. They complained about Klamath Falls being the "OPA capital" for Modoc and Siskiyou counties, and they complained about various Sierra sections of the state being in the Reno district.

OPA has been having rough political sledding in Washington, and the Californians were appeased by slashing the Klamath and Reno districts.

## We Learn Something

DISCONTINUANCE of the OPA office is somewhat of a disappointment here, but establishment of a field station and combination of that with the local rationing office are developments that appear to be well-advised.

What has happened does not alter the fact that Klamath Falls is a logical administrative headquarters, for both government and private agencies, covering a large section of southern Oregon and northern California. OPA officials agree that such is the case, but their situation was affected by various factors not related to the location of the city or its economic and transportation relationships with this large district.

Local people, quite obviously, have learned something first hand about government methods in the OPA office incident here as well as the construction of the Japanese war relocation center at Tulelake.

## FUNERAL

### SALLY FOSTER

The funeral service for the late Sally Foster who passed away near Beatty, Ore., on May 31, 1948, will take place from the Beatty Methodist church on Friday afternoon, June 4, at 2 o'clock. The Rev. B. V. Bradshaw will officiate. Commitment services and interment will follow in the Plute cemetery. Friends are invited. Ward's Klamath funeral home in charge of the arrangements.

## OBITUARY

**ALFRETTE GEORGE LAO**  
Alfretta George Lao, a lifelong resident of Klamath county, passed away at the Klamath

Agency on Tuesday, June 1, 1948. The deceased was born in Klamath county and was aged 19 years, 2 months and 13 days when called. She is survived by her husband, Pvt. Leon J. Lao, U. S. Army, Tenn.; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Jackson of Portland, Ore.; 4 sisters, Victoria George, Mary Ann Jackson and Elene Marie Jackson, all of Portland, and Alberta Fay Jackson of Midland, Ore.; a brother, Alvin Jackson Jr., of Portland; her grandmother, Mettie George of Beatty, Ore.; two aunts and three uncles. The remains rest at Ward's Klamath funeral home, 925 High street. Funeral arrangements are pending the arrival of her husband from Tennessee.

Classified Ads Bring Results.

## News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, June 2 — Mr. Roosevelt's choice of his able, calm, suave, quiet-working James Byrnes as super-czar of the home front, was only a sensation for one edition.

Then, all including congress, settled back, hopeful, yet skeptical as to how the new regime would work out.

The reorganization plan, like all reorganizations for the past few years, was the work of the president's earnest soft-shoe counsel, Judge Samuel Roseman, of New York. And like all other Roseman reorganizations, it put another layer on the top of the cake without altering the constituency of the lower levels.

The only new face it brought into the picture was that of Fred Vinson, who was a rising mid-road New Deal congressman some years ago, before he decided to seek security by getting a life job on the District of Columbia court of appeals. His district was about half and half on its New Dealism and he was in danger of defeat at any time.

What caused him to leave this security now for this new venture has not been announced, but it might well include an eventual appointment to the United States supreme court, which he rates far more than some who have been appointed to that court.

Mr. Byrnes, in creating his new top-layer upon the domestic war effort, is calling to his side a few of his oldtime associates in congress (Marvin Jones was brought in earlier from a court to act as food advisor). To this extent, the tone of top-leadership is being removed both from the business man element and the radical New Dealers.

Messrs. Byrnes, Vinson and Jones represent the political-legislative school of thought, the old-line democracy which was converted to New Dealism, but not to the classroom type of radicalism when it came along.

## Down Goes Nelson

OBVIOUSLY dropped a notch in the new picture is Donald Nelson, and eliminated entirely (from the new Byrnes six-man board) is the OPA Director Prentiss Brown.

Mr. Nelson's lot lately has not been a particularly happy one. Perhaps he may be reaching toward the same conclusion expressed privately by another business man, Rubber Czar Jeffers, who, although he has survived sniping from Mr. Ickes and other government department chiefs, told a friend a few days ago (in effect):

"This is no place for a business executive with such divided authority and clash of policies. If I tried to run my railroad this way, it would be bankrupt in a year."

Even more closely pressed, however, is Mr. Brown, whose OPA organization has not been reformed of its radical New Deal element, and is struggling earnestly but somewhat painfully.

Some other government officials are actually prophesying (not in public, of course) that it will soon disintegrate in the backwash of its own complicated regulations and administrative efforts and conflicts. For the time being, it is to be left to find its own fate.

To ride atop this obviously seething administrative mass, in an effort to quiet it, Mr. Byrnes has been given five associates on a super board—Vinson, Nelson, the heads of the armed services Stimson and Knox, and not in the least last, Harry Hopkins, the president's right-hand man.

## Undivided Authority

THE announced purpose of the change was to give Mr. Byrnes direct authority and to eliminate divided authority. Yet it is clear from the executive order that the real authority with which Mr. Byrnes will work is still in the hands of the president, through his representative, Mr. Hopkins on the board.

No one doubts that it will be Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Hopkins, who will say how far Mr. Byrnes will crack the whip.

For these and other obvious reasons, the reaction to the change here has been largely approving, but restrained. The Byrnes regime obviously does not fully represent the impatient mood of congress, yet just such a new regime as this has been actually urged by many in congress through several bills and committee reports.

The difficulty of more specific commenting about it will continue until it becomes apparent how far Mr. Byrnes is allowed to go.

## LIBRARIANS TO HOLD MEET ON WAR PROBLEMS

On Saturday, June 5, there will be a conference here on library war and post-war problems, with librarians and library boards in all parts of southern Oregon participating.

The group will meet for a luncheon at 12 noon on Saturday in the Pelican party room and continue their conference from there. The main speaker will be Eleanor Stephens, state librarian.

Among those attending the conference will be Cora Mason from the Ashland public library; Mrs. Drysdale, a children's librarian from the Jackson county library system; Marcia Hill from the Josephine county library system; Mrs. E. E. Rinehart and board members from the Lakeview public library; Enola Hawkins and the city library board from the Klamath Falls public library; and the Klamath county library staff and board members.

## Officials Clarify Law on Autoist's Responsibility

SALEM, June 2 (AP)—Governor Earl Snell and Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell Jr. issued a joint statement today denying that Oregon's new motor vehicle financial responsibility law compels every automobile owner to take out liability insurance.

The law, passed by the 1943 legislature, becomes effective next Wednesday.

The law provides that any motorist involved in an accident which results in death, personal injury or property damage shall be compelled to show financial responsibility. In other words, the law does not apply to a motorist unless he is in an accident, after which he must show he is financially responsible, either by taking out insurance or posting a bond.

## Disloyal Evacuees Waging Campaign

SACRAMENTO, Calif., June 2 (AP)—Disloyal alien Japanese in war relocation camps have been carrying on a campaign to influence American born Japanese to their way of thinking. Nat L. Pieper, FBI agent in charge of the San Francisco office, told the Pacific Coast International association of Law Enforcement Officials here today.

In many instances, Pieper said, many of the Japanese citizens presumed to be loyal have been "converted."

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## CITY BRIEFS

**Social Club Committee**—On the hostess committee for Friday afternoon's meeting of the Eastern Star Social club are Mrs. Roy Erdmann, Mrs. A. B. Epperson, Mrs. George Sample and Mrs. A. R. Dickson. Dessert will be served at 1:45 o'clock.

**Building Entered**—The Southern Oregon Well Drilling Co., Inc. of 630 South Sixth street reported that two youngsters had entered their building and damaged a few articles.

**Frightened**—Edna Edmunson and Mrs. E. V. Hodges were frightened by a man carrying a hatchet on the viaduct last night. The man was later apprehended and found to be drunk.

**Visiting Here**—Mrs. J. Armond Ulrich and her three-year-old son, J. Armond Jr., are here from Holland, Ore., visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George C. Ulrich at 636 Conger avenue.

**Eagles Auxiliary**—The Eagles auxiliary will have its regular meeting and installation of officers at 8 p. m. on Thursday.

**To Salem**—Mrs. Carl G. Arthur is visiting her sister in Salem.

## Mrs. Lamb Speaks To Garden Clubs

PENDELTON, Ore., June 2 (AP)—Members of the Oregon Federation of Garden clubs are using their skill to aid the war efforts, Mrs. E. D. Lamb of Klamath Falls, president, told some 80 delegates to the state convention here today. During the last year federation members grew 1492 Victory gardens and a 50 per cent increase this year is forecast. She also pointed to thousands of containers of fruit and vegetables processed.

Today we stand at the fork of the road with the eyes of all nations upon us. Will America with her matchless power and incomparable strength, the acknowledged leader of post-war economic life, now move in the direction of economic self-sufficiency, the policy which Germany pursued, or will America move in the direction of international cooperation, upon which alone lasting peace can be built? —Francis B. Sayre, special assistant to the secretary of state.

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