

Herald and News

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News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 — Mr. Roosevelt's announced program for the fourth term proposes compulsion as the answer to the most prominent pending war and postwar questions. Not enough 4-F's are going into war work. Compel them. Not enough nurses are volunteering. Draft them. Labor shortages exist in some few but important war lines. Give the president power to draft everyone for war work.

For future defense of the country, draft the youths for a year of training in army camps. For 60,000,000 postwar jobs, let private enterprise be encouraged to furnish them, but let the government also furnish many by great public works (airfields, roads, new TVA's).

The congressional reaction to these ideas was hesitant. The president was fresh from a successful election to a fourth term, with increasing majorities in congress, yet the common calm congressional comment suggested only the 4-F draft would be authorized, probably a nurses draft would be included (if this scare does not work), but certainly a work draft would not be voted soon and the youth draft for peace might wait until peace for decision.

The postwar business program was rather generally approved and will no doubt be provided by congress as it comes along. Why this resistance, largely silent and unexplained, to vital points of a program which is not new in any respect, the president having proclaimed himself for most of these things before? The answer is the average congressman is scared.

Opposition was crushed politically in the election, but the general reaction here even to that result was somewhat the same—hesitancy, silence, fear (or elements prominent in the reelection campaign).

It is not a partisan matter, and it is not being pushed for political effect. No one is much interested in such things now. It is a recognized genuine state of public affairs.

The president looks upon his work draft suggestion, no doubt, as a reasonable and democratic solution. England has a much milder counterpart of the same thing, being empowered to draft men for the army, and then to assign them to industry. They have put draftees into the mines to work.

Use Power Sparingly

THE president says he intends to use the power only sparingly to meet emergencies (although there are few powers the administration has not used, some more fully than anticipated).

He counsels, now (he did not before) safeguards which would not draft a man to work for a lower salary than he had been getting.

What is certainly also behind the idea, but not mentioned, is the power such legislation would give the president over strikers and non-conformist labor union leaders or workers. They could be drafted to work (all union leaders have been against it).

Judging not only from these reiterated demands for more government compulsory powers, but also the steps taken recently closing all race tracks, tightening rationing and the other war compulsory decrees, it is impossible to refrain from the conclusion that this government is moving further and further to the compulsory theory.

Perfect Form of Rule

ITS ideal of a perfect form of government seems to be a new kind of democratic statism preserving free enterprise, contradictory as

Softball Grenade Method Used by 'Pop' to Kill Nazis

SEATTLE, Jan. 11 (P)—PFC. Leo J. (Pop) Powers won the Congressional Medal of Honor although so inexperienced at hand grenade tossing he lobbed his missiles like a soft-ball pitcher instead of using the prescribed overhand method.

Powers, called Pop by his buddies because he's a ripe 35 years of age, received the Congressional Medal yesterday from President Roosevelt in Washington and told interviewers of the action for which it was awarded before leaving his post at Fort Lawton here.

"I sure wasn't thinking about any medals that day," the former Alder, Mont., ranch hand said. "I guess I was just tired of seeing so many of my buddies shot down."

Powers won his medal in action at Hill 175 before Cassino. Tossing his grenades underhand and using his rifle when they were gone he destroyed three

German pillboxes, killing at least five Germans, wounding 12 and forcing 20 to flee.

"My rifle company had started out with 200 men and there were just about 35 of us left," Powers said in telling how he started his one-man counterattack.

Although he was the target of myriad bullets and grenades, Powers came through the battle unscathed. Six days later, however, he was knocked unconscious by an aerial bomb and on February 15 he was sent back to the United States. Recieved, he was assigned to Fort Lawton.

His only comment on his feelings as he charged the pillboxes: "It was pretty uncomfortable with the machinegun and rifle bullets whizzing by."

Army Surplus Truck Rule Revised

Recent changes in the procedure governing sale of surplus army trucks by the treasury procurement division are called to the attention of Oregon farmers by the state AAA committee.

All truck sales will be made on an informal bid basis, and no more negotiated sales will be made, according to the revised regulations. The sales are similar to auctions, except that the bids are written and each prospective buyer may make only one bid on any one truck, but may bid on as many trucks as he desires.

Under the truck program, AAA committees issue letters of recommendation to users seeking trucks who are contributing to the war food program. In case of the bids, authorized dealers buying for resale to users holding these letters are given preference.

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those terms may sound. This may be the fourth New Deal.

Actually the only factor holding congress back is that the need for these steps has not been proved conclusively. If, in the future, anytime, a major setback in the war, a wave of strikes, or a critical shortage of labor which cannot otherwise be met, develops a crisis, the congressional attitude could then be swung easily in favor of such form of action.

Indeed, Mr. Roosevelt's tactics of not pressing for the work draft immediately, suggests he is biding his time for national support.

Consequently any sound analysis must conclude that the plotted march of the fourth term is definitely headed toward extension of compulsion methods, completely for war, and to a new undetermined extent for peace, that the end-goal seems to be a state in which individuals are subjected to extended authoritarian control by federal authorities.

This trend may be arrested by victory, but its course is largely in the hands of events to come. The position of congress seems to be only that it does not understand conditions to be bad enough yet to warrant such departures from our traditions.

For the long run, I would guess the odds favor the projected administration outline, which events could swiftly popularize and justify.

The War Today

By DEWITT MacKENZIE
Associated Press War Analyst

THE battle of the Belgian bulge continues to go so well for the allies that, without overreaching for our conclusions, we can say Nazi Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's counter-offensive not only may profit his masters little but may prove to be a nasty boomerang.

The latest high-ranking exponent of this idea is Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley, commander of the U. S. 12th army group in France, who says the Germans' drive may materially affect their "ability to resist." That is, their ability to prolong the war may have been reduced. The general warns, however, that this doesn't mean we can assume the Hitlerites are on the verge of collapse, since there's much fighting to come—a wise qualification.

Falling Back From Tip

RUNDSTEDT is falling back from the western tip of that long, narrow bulge which is contracting about him. The way things look he will continue to withdraw until ultimately he again reaches his frontier defenses. Now this doesn't mean he is running away. He's fighting a fierce rear-guard action and dispatches from the front indicate he may try to make a determined stand at Houffalize, the key position in the heart of the salient. We must expect interludes of German counterattacks, and there may be temporary allied upsets.

However, the great point is that Rundstedt is losing heavily in men and materiel, for the struggle in the bulge is a battle of annihilation. By the time he reaches his Siegfried defenses his army will need a blood-transfusion.

The Nazi marshal's chief achievement is in delaying the allied winter offensive perhaps three months or so. Whether this will represent any real gain remains to be seen, for he may arrive back at the Rhine so badly shot to pieces that his further powers of resistance will be weak. Presumably that possibility is what General Bradley has in mind.

May Shorten War

SHOULD this eventuate, the time spent in the battle of the bulge wouldn't have lengthened the war but would in fact have shortened it. Rundstedt had to be smashed sometime, and it's perhaps just as well to do it in the bulge as on the Cologne plain where Eisenhower had planned to force a showdown.

How soon will the allies be able to conclude the battle of the bulge and mount an all-out offensive to end all offensives? It strikes me that we shall be overoptimistic if we look for preliminaries of the big show short of the good weather in April, if indeed they can come that soon.

SIDE GLANCES



"The patient just ahead of you bragged that she had four cartons of cigarets—I hope you're not inclined to be nervous, because I'm still pretty sore!"

Yadon Given Award By Naval Bureau

John Melvin Yadon, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Yadon, 101 Old Fort road, was recently given the meritorious civilian service award of the naval bureau of yards and docks. Yadon is now stationed at Honolulu, with headquarters at Pearl Harbor.

The recommendation was made due to "excellent services rendered over and beyond those normally required in connection

with duties in the construction program."

Yadon is a graduate of Klamath Union high school and Oregon State college. He is now in the design section of the navy, civil service department, and has been in Honolulu since December 3, 1941. He was at Pearl Harbor at the time of the bombing.

Until the time of President Franklin Roosevelt, presidents of the United States were not compelled to pay income tax on their salaries.

Naked Eye Can See Four Quintillion Miles, Report

By J. HUGH PRUETT
Astronomer, General Extension Division, Univ. of Ore.

Visitors to observatories often ask, "How far can one see with this telescope?" Whatever the answer in such cases, it is of interest to determine how far one may see without optical instruments of any kind—excepting a pair of good eyes.

Along the car's surface we may observe hills, mountain ranges and snow peaks at distances of 10, 50, 100 or more miles, depending upon the clarity of the lower air. The stratosphere balloon, Explorer II, reaching 13.7 miles altitude in its ascent from Rapid City, S. Dak., on November 11, 1935, enabled its passengers to see 350 miles in every direction, or into several states. Even the curvature of the earth was evident.

Trillions of Miles
When looking into the sky, we see the moon a few hundred thousand miles away. For the sun and planets, this becomes millions of miles. For the fixed stars we skip the next denomination, billions, and get their light across the immense space of trillions of miles.

But our eyes, if good, will receive light from "far beyond the stars," entirely past quadrillions and from quintillions of miles of almost eternity. At this time of year around 7 p. m. there is almost directly overhead an object that is four quintillion (4,000,000,000,000,000) miles from us. This object is so inconceivably far away that its light, traveling 186,000 miles a second, is just now reaching us after 700,000 years of flight across an immensity of night and nothingness. This is the great Andromeda galaxy, another immense star system far outside the bor-

ders of our own galaxy of billions of stars, and sometimes called an island universe.

Faint, Hazy Patch
If you are well shielded from artificial lights and the air is very clear, you should have little trouble seeing this far away wonder, which will appear as a very small and faint hazy patch, about like the head of an indistinct comet. This is the most distant object you can see with the unaided eye.

Until 20 years ago the Andromeda galaxy and numerous other similar objects were thought to be members of our own star system. Although it looked like a nebula, the spectroscope showed its light was that of stars. With the aid of the huge 100-inch Mt. Wilson telescope and modern photography, it has finally been resolved into millions of the tiniest of pin-points of stars, seemingly so packed as to make almost a continuous cloud as seen with most telescopes. Recent methods of space-measurement reveal its real distance.

Unaided eyes have this privilege of looking across four million million million miles of space and "absorbing" in the process of looking, live bits of radiation that are more than 100 times as old as the pyramids of Egypt. Look for this at your first opportunity. Its reality is overwhelming!

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Right to Use Name Settled by Groups

PORTLAND, Jan. 11 (P)—Conflict between Portland Gresham groups over the right to use the name "Oregon Japanese, Inc.," appeared today with announcement the Portland incorporation application had been withdrawn. William B. Murray, Portland attorney, said he asked the incorporation commissioner to return the application.

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Klamath's Yesterdays

From the files—40 years ago and 10 years ago.

From the Klamath Republican January 12, 1905

Mrs. R. S. Moore invited a number of the Klamath Falls ladies to her home last Saturday afternoon to meet her niece, Mrs. Ernest Atwood, who recently arrived with her husband from England. Present were Mesdames Claude Daggett, Fred Schallcock, Paul DeLancy, Carey Ramsby, Frank Jennings, E. B. Henry, Fred Mills, Bert L. Withrow, Wesley O. Smith, Emma Cogswell and Misses Mabel Hammond, Maud Baldwin, Maud Nail, Elva Galloway and Alice Applegate.

From the Evening Herald January 14, 1935

Heaviest snowfall in two years covers Klamath basin, reaching a depth of more than one foot.

Juvenile Officer Carl Cook advised parents to find out where children are coasting and whether it is safe.

Liberator Explodes, Crashes to Earth

VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 11 (P)—A Liberator bomber on a practice flight north of Point Robert, Wash., crashed last night after an explosion, western air command reported.

Four of the seven-man crew parachuted to safety. The fate of the others was unknown.

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