

We are shaped and fashioned by what we love.—Goethe.

EDITORIAL AND FEATURE PAGE

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THE BREMERTON SUN stands for those principles which it regards as beneficial to the welfare of the community, for honest journalism in news and editorial columns.

The Bremerton Sun

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Un-Huddling the Government

Bitter are the lessons being written in blood across Europe today—and you to him who will not learn them! One of them seems to be this: there is danger in too great centralization. That is, if all your government offices are huddled in one small area, all your steel works huddled in another, all your auto and munitions plants in another, all your boat-building facilities in another, so much greater the chance of a single crippling blow by some overwhelming bombing raid. That country is best off whose productive facilities are so scattered that a whole series of successful blows might not necessarily cripple it.

The war has centered attention on decentralization. New power, plane and munitions plants are being built in remote places which had hitherto been without great industries, even without great populations. And this at a time when the tide of people flooding into the cities seems to have reversed itself and for the first time the census figures show an increase in the rural population.

But against this time swims government. The population of Washington has grown 36 per cent since 1930, a rate of increase exceeded only by Miami and San Diego. It has stopped over its limits, and Arlington County, across the Potomac in Virginia, is the fastest-growing county in the U. S. Office buildings cannot be built fast enough to hold the bulging bureaus; rents skyrocket.

One answer has been proposed by Rep. Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois. He has introduced into the House a resolution which would call for moving many government bureaus hitherly from Washington to other cities. Even allowing for Dirksen's probably direct interest in getting some of them for Chicago or his native Pekin district, maybe this is worth thinking about.

Dirksen argues that \$100,000,000 was spent last year by officials in travel from Washington to other places where government business was being done; that many of the functions of government, like social security, railroad control of various kinds, census bureau, housing and home loan work, maritime contracts, WPA, CCC, veterans' work, and agricultural aid, could just as efficiently and perhaps more economically be discharged in other parts of the country.

Does too great a concentration of the nation's life hold for safety pass through Washington? New York? Chicago? Detroit? Ought we to begin thinking seriously of doing something about it?

The Only Issue

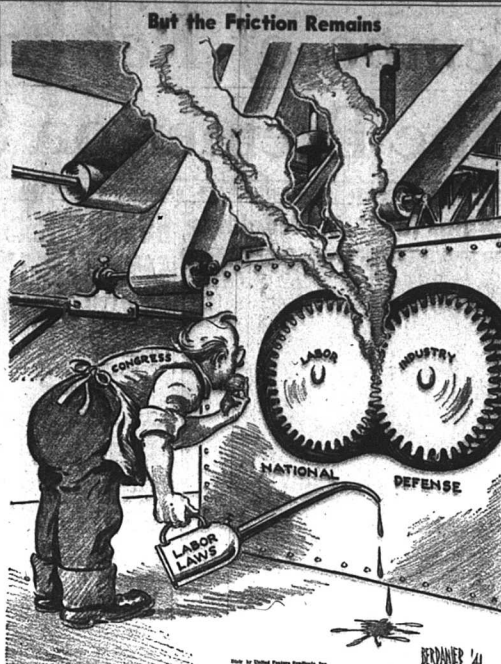
Great debates often have a way of simmering right down, eventually, to simple, fundamental facts. The Christian Science Monitor, reflecting on the aid-to-Britain controversy in its editorial page column, demonstrated that fact with these words recently:

"Which is better? "Or a possibility of being least and alone later?" That seems to be the issue in the proverbial nutshell.

IN HOLLYWOOD

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 5.—From Hollywood I hear that Jimmy Roosevelt and Romelle Schneider, reported chilling not so long ago, have now set their altars afire for March. Bob Hope and NBC, which censors his scripts, are tiffing because the network tuned out a couple of his pet gags (about BMI tunes) that he refused to discard.

RED RYDER The story itself goes back several years. It seems that the woman purchasing the coat had had a great desire to own a luxurious fur garment. She would save her money, but each time she had enough, some one of the family would buy the coat.



The 'Round Towner' By the Staff

Round town with the 'Round Towner': James Aurenz chatting with a customer—Thomas Sebring driving his new car—George Atwood celebrating his birthday—James Wolfe getting settled in his new home—Dr. Manfred Kint talking school board affairs—Robert Walker enroute to his Manette home—Mrs. H. E. Graver smiling—Mrs. H. A. Lemke reading the evening paper—Eddie Wolfe lifting his cap to a lady—Miss Betty Puelmer talking about her sewing score—Miss Tompkins in a barber-shop—Fie Captain Tom Turner greeting his wife upon her return from a visit to Oregon.

WHEN MET RAINIER WEARS A CAP

It would not take much of a weather prophet to "outprophet" the kind that has been dubbed out of late, Virgil Temple is so good that you never need to go back to check upon him. Standing with his face toward the east facing Mount Rainier, Virgil Temple, the blind sage of Indian lore of the Squamish tribe, gives his bit of prophetic weather news. "Mr. Kenney tells me that the mountain has its cap on this morning, and that means that it will rain within 48 hours. A cloud around the right shoulder of Rainier means that an east wind will be blowing soon. And a cloud around the left shoulder means a west wind. And this will be an early spring, for around my place I heard the frogs croaking on Jan. 20th—and that's earlier than usual."

NARCISSI ARLBOOM

Yes, there are narcissi blooming in Bremerton. Mr. Round Towner, and why don't you open your eyes. That was the good-natured message of a telephone call, Mr. T. received yesterday from Mrs. J. E. Finden of 1836 5th st., who had called in this column our question as to whether any narcissi were blooming here in our spring-like February weather.

DEPARTMENT STORE DRAMA

A co-worker related the following story to us and we think it's worth passing on; it's another of those everyday stories that make life a bit more worth while.

Wait Dime's "Pants-a-He" you're a music lover, you'll cheer; if not, you may sneer—but in either event, you'll admit it's the most startling scene offering in recent years. BOONK: James Hillton's "Random Harvest" (Little Brown, and Albee's "Victor). The late hand's right best-loved recording man who knew music like the well-worn floor of yesterday's DECK: Hal Kemp's "Menzies and Albert" (Victor). The late hand's right best-loved recording man who knew music like the well-worn floor of yesterday's CAP (Liberty). STOVING that she, Cedric Belfrage, who belatedly hopes for Europe's future, SONG: "I Hear a Rhapsody," a Palm Springs Grand hideaway.

A Tragic Tale

RED RYDER (The characters in this serial are fictitious.)

Capital Comment

By BRUCE CANTON

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—The administration is beginning to worry about the things that may come out of Sen. Wheeler's investigation of foreign tie-ups with American industry. The senate voted this investigation last fall after the justice department had uncovered various cases in which war-essential U. S. industries had entered into trade agreements with German companies which tended to limit American production. But the wording of the resolution was pretty broad, and it is just beginning to occur to people that Wheeler may possibly be investigating anything that affected U. S. production for U. S. defense. And the thought of a determined investigation of Sen. Wheeler, who is one of the ablest investigators in the senate, getting turned loose in that field is enough to make any administration official shudder.

The White House has kept a tight silence on the subject, but an accepted report that John G. Winant will be the next ambassador to England. If the appointment should fall through, however, Winant would still show up with a

Don't be surprised any day to read that the British government has simply gone ahead and taken over various Irish seaports for use as submarine naval bases. Confidential reports received in Washington indicate that the decision to do that has been made so that one of our favorable trade relations is being sacrificed. One of our representatives to the U. S. is a chance to sound out Irish-American sentiment, and see whether the reaction would be damaging to projects like the base-line

WALLACE'S HELPER Vice President Wallace's parliamentary gift of presiding over the senate with a lot of strange faces in front of him and a labyrinth of unfamiliar rules to enforce, in the face of a strong opposition because of the constant presence of the house of Charles Watkins, senate parliamentarian.

Pointed Paragraphs I don't have as much money as I used to, but I have learned an appreciation of life. I am content. —Tommy Longman, one-time light-heavyweight champion. No country can extend a citizenship that is all privilege and no duty. —NOT SO HELPFUL: She was a very efficient young woman, but she was a car-racing slowly down the street without a driver. Unhappily she ran the side of the moving vehicle, opened the door, hopped out and applied to the driver. —THEY GOT OUT AND LOOKED FOR THE DRIVER: A man named appeared, and she asked him to drive her. —HE ADMITTED OWNERSHIP: "I know it was," said the man, "but I had to have it to get the job done." —KALEBASTERS: "I wanted to find out how many of you were in the room."

Hold Everything . . . . . by Josh THE BREMERTON SUN stands for those principles which it regards as beneficial to the welfare of the community, for honest journalism in news and editorial columns.

Hold Everything . . . . . by Josh



"My compliments, Captain—and how's for a little game of checkers?"

SHE WED WINGS

CHAPTER XXXV AT THE same instant the shot was fired, Jay felt a searing burn in her left side, as if someone had come up behind her and had jabbed a knife into the hip.

"What happened?" Kay asked. "I don't know exactly. Captain Thorne said it was a bullet in my side. The doctor said I can't tell him what's happened. It's a matter of minutes to Burbank. This physician's crazy with fright. He's not to start a riot. I can't tell him I've been hit. That would only make things worse. You've got to carry on as I see it—hold the mob off until I can get into Burbank."

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