

Hoosier Vagabond

By Ernie Pyle

PORLAND, Ore., Feb. 13.—Since the WPA has always captivated me as a phenomenon, a social force, a doer of good deeds, and a possible haven for myself in some future private storm, I dropped around today to see what the WPA was doing for its country now. Or more specifically, to see what the Art Project under WPA was doing.

Well, they're doing all right. The Art Project of Oregon's WPA is hard at work on defense. It isn't making shells or planes, but it's making the men happy who shoot the shells and pilot the planes. At the moment it is head over heels furnishing and decorating the new Tongue Point Naval Air Station.

That's all said in a few words, and yet it's a colossal job. The Art Project has made the furniture (and boy you should see it!) for all the public and many of the private rooms—280 pieces, chairs, tables, beds, lamps, ash trays, the drapes, even a crap table.

You might ask why the WPA, in a time of urgency like this, has to help keep WPA going by having it do this work. Why not just go to a store and buy the stuff?

The Answer Is Easy

THE ANSWER is simple—the Oregon Art Project can 'do' this job more artistically, and far more cheaply, than it could be done any other way right now. Why, for \$7000 the Government is getting at Tongue Point what would cost \$20,000 anywhere else. That's the answer.

Oregon's Art Project is unique. No other state has put its art craftsmanship to such practical use.

Inside Indianapolis By Lowell Nussbaum

A QUIET CRUSADE to put national defense production in local plants on an all-out basis is being waged by a couple of our leading manufacturers. They went to New York recently and conferred with Donald Nelson. They returned impressed not only with Mr. Nelson himself, but also

with the urgent need for more production TODAY—not just next year. It's going to take vast quantities of weapons and equipment for Uncle Sam to win the war, and if we don't win within the year, it'll be a 10-year war, the two industrialists are convinced. One, whose plant doubled its 1940 production last year, came home from New York, checked up and found ways to increase production substantially right away, with

more increases to come shortly. He got several other big industrialists steamed up with the idea, and now they, too, are helping to spread the "hurry up" gospel far and wide.

The Election's Over

WED LIKE to have been a little mouse yesterday afternoon. If we had been, we could have listened to what the County's five biggest Democratic organization leaders talked about in an hour and a half's huddle. The pow-wow was held in the Claypool dining room. In the huddle—behind a huge pillar—were County Chairman Ira Haymaker, County Treasurer Walter Hoettcher, former Treasurer Frank McKinney, former Chairman Billy Clauer and former Prosecutor David M. Lewis. Nobody knows what they were talking about. But if you want our guess, and that of several lobby spectators, they were holding the Marion County Primary election—in advance. Going to the polls to nominate Democratic candidates next May looks like a mere formality, now that they're already hand picked.

Woops—Excuse It!

DURING HIS VISIT here yesterday, Clarence Budington Kelland, the author and G. O. P. National

Washington

LINCOLN TALKS
KEYNOTE GOP
DRIVE IN STATE

Voters Urged to Follow
Martyr's Principles in
Crisis of War.

BY UNITED PRESS

They've really created a renaissance out here. For at least five years it has been actually creating things—unusual, tasteful and practical things—for people to use.

The Art Project fished out carpenters from the WPA rolls, and made delicate cabinetmakers into ironworkers. It took foundry workers and trained them into ironworkers. It took guys like me whose fingers were all thumbs, and made fine upholsterers of them. It took ordinary housewives and set them to weaving unusual drapes and upholstering material.

Then with all this newly developed talent it started making things that were both useful and beautiful. What it did was the opposite of leaf-raking.

War Reducing Rolls

IT BUILT and completely furnished Timberline Lodge. It decorated the University of Oregon's medical school. It furnished and decorated the court rooms and judge's chambers at Klamath Falls. It did the interior of the new Klamath Falls Infirmary.

It furnished—in Oregon's native and rare myrtle—the lodge at Silver Creek Falls State park. It did the Bend County courthouse, and dozens of schools and schools.

It furnished and decorated the quarters of an Army Engineers outfit here in Portland, and did some decorative work at the Air Base.

The number of people employed on the Art Project has dropped by one-third—and the two-thirds remaining are not the same people who were working a year ago, but are green hands pulled off the regular WPA rolls and trained to this specialized work.

If the war goes long enough, the Project visualizes the day when it will fold up altogether because there'll no longer be anybody to do the work—everybody will be in actual defense work. That would be the answer for the most part.

Willis Assails Pinks

AT ALBION — Sen. Raymond E. Willis (R. Ind.).

"The Republican Party is dedicated to two victories—one to win the war and the other to preserve American freedoms from the domestic sabotage of pink vipers in its official positions.

"Politics is the only instrument of expression of the people in their Government, and when we cease to have Government by political parties, we shall cease to be a free country."

AT FRANKFORT—Rep. Forrest A. Harness (R. Fifth District):

"Passage of the pension law for Congressmen is the most stupid thing Congress has done in the present crisis because it not only tends to destroy the confidence of people in Congress, but was done at a time when the Government is urging citizens to buy defense bonds to the limit and warning them incessantly of the need for higher taxes."

Gates on Radio

AT TURKEY RUN STATE PARK—Richard T. James, Auditor of State:

"Proven leaders such as Willkie, Farley and Kennedy have been denied important Government posts by the clique of theorists and patronage boys in Washington."

BY RADIO—State Republican Chairman Ralph Gates:

"Republicans must carry the philosophy of Lincoln into action . . . the Democratic processes must not be destroyed in the prosecution of the war."

AT PERU—William K. Jenner, Republican State Senator:

"Fan dancers and dreamers are dominating the Washington scene and men of ability and leadership have been left on the sidelines."

Sees Trend to G. O. P.

AT RICHMOND—James M. Knapp, Speaker of the Indiana House of Representatives:

"America must not endanger its two-party system in the present emergency."

AT MARION—James M. Tucker, Secretary of State:

"Americans are turning to the Republican Party now as they did in the days of secession and the Republicans must and will keep power."

AT TERRE HAUTE—James M. Givens, Treasurer of State:

"Americans must utilize every resource in the Republic to suppress those who would destroy us."

CITIZENS DINE ON
NAVY CHOW TONIGHT

Regulation Navy "chow" will be the bill of fare for 50 members of a citizens' committee at 6:30 p.m. today in the Naval Armory at 30th St. and White River. The dinner meeting is for the purpose of organizing the Indiana Navy Booster Club, a civilian agency to aid in Navy recruiting.

AT INDIANAPOLIS—James M. Dwyer, general chairman, has invited presidents of all Indianapolis service-luncheon clubs to attend.

They will prepare for the Navy Booster's Day celebration in Indianapolis Feb. 22, which will be one of the most outstanding events of kind ever held in Indiana, according to Mr. Dwyer.

On that day civilian pilots will "bomb" Indianapolis from the air with thousands of leaflets, and the public has been invited to a night mass meeting later in the Butler Fieldhouse.

STAKE OUT BUILDING
SITES AT NEW CAMP

FRANKLIN, Ind., Feb. 12 (U.P.):

The Consolidated Construction of Chicago began preliminary work on the construction of temporary hospital buildings at the new Army camp between here and Columbus today.

Sites for the buildings were staked out yesterday and trucks began moving equipment into the area along Road 252. It was reported Consolidated was low bidder on a \$3,943,623 section of the camp construction program.

Reports from Washington indicated no name for the camp had been selected yet.

SIGNS LOAN TO CHINA BILL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (U.P.):

President Roosevelt today signed the bill appropriating \$500,000,000 for a loan to China. The money is available immediately.

WE UNDERESTIMATED the thoroughness with which those nations developed the savage instinct and equipped it to fight.

That was our failure. Our mistake was in believing the world was better than it was. So we were caught poorly prepared. If we had been able to comprehend the viciousness that was ruling in Berlin and Tokyo we would have been doing years ago what we are now doing in building the largest war industry ever undertaken.

Our failure to believe the extent of the evil which was abroad in the world must be a cause of regret. It has jeopardized all that we stand for. It is adding heavily to the cost of victory. But in that very failure is found the spirit which must return to the earth after we have outdone our enemies at their own game.

We know how to make war weapons. There is nothing the matter with our battleships, our cruisers, our destroyers, our planes and tanks—except that we have not improved the designs as fast as the experience of war in other countries has made desirable. But we know how to make them, and you won't find anything better than our heavy bombers and our new fighter with its 2000-horsepower engine, now in production.

Neither have we been indifferent to the security of America. We have spent a good deal of effort on Panama, on Hawaii, on Pacific stepping stones for trans-ocean flying, on a Navy that was abreast of Britain's as one of the two largest in the world. As we saw our problem, we did make an effort to protect ourselves.

We are not stupid and sluggish. Our ingenuity and energy have developed a peace-time standard of living that all other nations have envied.

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