

Monarch of A ll He Surveys



EVENING OBSERVER'S PROGRESS PROGRAM IRRIGATION—Complete the Grande Ronde Valley irrigation project. LA GRANDE — A city of 10,000 — Extend the city limits.

TODAY'S TEXT

If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?—Luke 12:26.

THOUGHTS FOR TODAY

Our greatest good, and what we least can spare, Is hope: the last of all our evils, fear. —John Armstrong

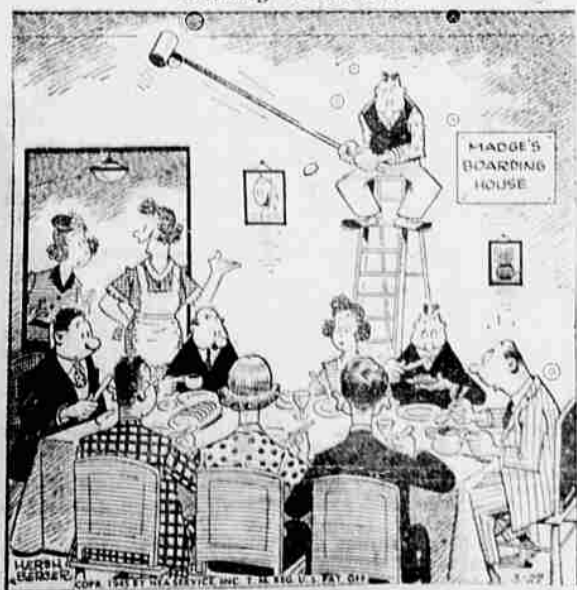
Two Freedoms

However tough the problems that the San Francisco conference will have to wrestle with, the American public is at least assured that its own delegates will be free to speak their minds, and that its press will be free to report what goes on. That is an assurance that makes the problems seem somewhat less frightening.

These freedoms of speech and press, vital to democracy but new to world conferences, were promised the American delegation by President Roosevelt. They reflect his apparent desire for a sort of new international deal for this country—which isn't the same as an international new deal—that is admirable and encouraging.

One likely result of this freedom of speech and action would be to let Senator Vandenberg, a delegate, press his plan for a check and review by the conference of the decisions reached at Dumbarton Oaks and Yalta. It is difficult to see anything but merit in his plan, though it probably will be opposed. He shouldn't find much opposition

Funny Business



"He's the sugar and butter refered!"

among his American colleagues, since his plan is a blow at the "perfectionism" that Mr. Roosevelt and administration congressmen have decried.

It would subject the steps already taken to general, democratic examination. It would recognize the inescapable fact that any plans will have to be amended before they work smoothly. It would help to make perfection the eventual goal rather than a preliminary requirement to the world's efforts to organize for freedom, security and peace.

The Strong and the Weak

"We may deplore, if we choose," said Prime Minister Churchill to the house of commons, "that there is a difference between the great and small, between the strong and weak in the world. There is undoubtedly such a difference."

Mr. Churchill was speaking in defense of the voting procedure agreed to at Yalta. And he was referring, of course, to great and small nations. No one will deny his broad and obvious statement, but it could do with some expansion and clarification.

Does Mr. Churchill grant that greatness and strength carry responsibility as well as power? Does he feel that a monopoly of greatness and strength implies a monopoly of wisdom? Does he believe that smallness and weakness have no right to equal justice, dignity and consideration with the great and strong?

We trust that the answer is yes to the first question, and no to the others. We trust that President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin feel the same way. And we shall look forward to seeing their sentiments proved in action at the San Francisco conference.

SO THEY SAY

Some romance may develop from this. Most of the donors are girls and many a marine, pocketing her tag after a transfusion, has remarked, "I am gonna look up that babe when I get back." —Pharmacist Mate, Edward H. Reinhart of Shepherdstown, W. Va., @ two.

The trouble with the army is that too many Sunday drivers go to sleep at the wheel. I don't see what they've got to worry about just riding across the bridge. They ought to stand out here all morning. —Cpl. Thomas Kretschmer of Sanix City, Ia., directing Remagen bridge traffic.

Forecasts are not mathematical certainties, but there is good evidence for believing that by two years after the defeat of Japan, civil aviation can furnish employment of 150,000 persons. —Commerce Secretary Henry A. Wallace.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk, efficient surgeon general of the army, whose medical corps has done such a miraculous job of saving the wounded, has just come back from the Pacific theatre, boiling mad.

General Kirk was on an inspection trip of hospitals and army medical units to make sure they were on their toes, talk with personnel, see what else they needed to give the wounded the best possible treatment.

But when he arrived at Leyte in the southern Philippines, General MacArthur refused to permit General Kirk to come to Manila.

The army's most important medical work by that time had passed from Leyte and the south to Manila, but despite the fact MacArthur flatly refused to let the army's highest ranking doctor and chief of the medical corps inspect the hospitals in Manila or set foot there. (1)

MacArthur took this flat stand despite the fact that his own wife and son were in Manila, so obviously it could not have been considered too dangerous.

Furthermore, General MacArthur has refused to permit Brig. Gen. Guy B. Dent, the commanding officer of the medical corps in the Pacific, to remain in Manila. MacArthur has permitted General Dent to visit Manila several times, but requires that he go back to Leyte for permanent headquarters.

Top medical corps officers are burnt up over this, and say that MacArthur's adamant stand is seriously interfering with their operations. Some of them even go so far as to say that it is costing lives. While the commanding officer in any theatre has a right to choose army personnel in that area, they claim that MacArthur is going too far when he prevents the chief of the medical corps from visiting Manila on an inspection trip.

They also say that the wife of the commanding general is supposed to set an example to other wives who also would like to be with their husbands, and are critical of the fact that MacArthur flew his family back to Manila when there wasn't a chance in the world of any other officer's wife joining her husband.

The entire matter is being taken up with Secretary of War Stimson.

Note—Army wives are still smarting over the fact that MacArthur took a Chinese nurse and a lot of wicker furniture out of Manila in 1942, using valuable space on his small escape ship instead of rescuing General Wainwright or some of the other high-ranking officers who were left behind.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

The army has at last made up its mind that a wife's first responsibility is to her marriage—even if the wife has gone into uniform for the duration.

The war department has announced that any woman serving in the army overseas may request and obtain duty in the United States if her husband is returned home from permanent overseas assignment, whether for reassignment, hospitalization or honorable discharge.

Hold Back

It is too bad that women were not promised that much consideration early in the war. For if they had been, many a young war wife might have been interested in getting into uniform and helping to fill the quotas of women needed overseas as WACS, army nurses, dieticians and physical therapy aides.

Can Congressmen Read?

Government agencies have just received an order to cut down the size of type used in official publications, in order to conserve paper. There are two exceptions to the rule: Agencies printing material for school children or illiterate immigrants are permitted to use ordinary typewriter-size type. There is also no limit on the size of type which agencies can use in making reports to congress.

Pay-off came last week when OPA, perhaps thinking congressmen can't read as well as school children or illiterate immigrants, sent two thick volumes printed in very large type to each congressman.

A New Jim Farley

Usually a big national election is followed by a lethargic vacuum. Democrats and republicans both want to forget politics. But this time, leaders of both political parties are already talking about the congressional elections two years hence.

So far as meets the eye, however, Democratic Chairman Bob Hannegan is way out ahead of the republicans when it comes to translating words into deeds. Hannegan has become just as active as Jim Farley at the peak of his political power, is working at his job 18 hours a day and it is determined that Roosevelt roll up a stronger democratic majority in the congressional elections two years hence.

Shortly after Roosevelt returned from Yalta, Hannegan called on him, outlined detailed plans for keeping the democrats in power. Hannegan complained, however, that he wasn't getting much help from some cabinet members, pointing out that few cabinet members pitched in to help the party.

The president then suggested that Hannegan call together all the cabinet members except for the secretaries of war and navy, and lay down the law to them. So a few days later, Hannegan threw a small luncheon for the cabinet at which he put his cards on the table. Even the stiff, usually unbending state department, which tries to walk the political tightrope and has more republicans than democrats in its lush jobs, was represented by Assistant Secretary Dean Acheson.

Other cabinet members present were Postmaster General Walker, Secretary of Labor Perkins, Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard, Under Secretary of Interior Abe Fortas and Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau.

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Side Glances



"I thought at first I was going to like school, but it's getting pretty dull — I guess I'm more the outdoors type of man!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WM. E. MCKENNEY, America's Card Authority

PSYCHIC BIDS BUY

HEART CONTRACT

In the early days of contract, Dorothy Sims made quite a reputation for herself with psychic bidding. Every once in a while I see a good woman player pull off a fine psychic bid against experts.

Adelaide Neuwirth, in the recent eastern championships, made today's psychic bid against two of the country's outstanding life masters.

I know that you are going to say both East and West should

A card game hand analysis showing a deal with cards like ♠ J 7 4, ♥ J 10 9 6 4 2, etc., and a table with 'Dealer' and 'Deal' columns.

not resist the chance to double that. Now Mrs. Neuwirth quietly bid four hearts and bought the contract.

You can see that there was no way to defeat four hearts, nor was there any way to defeat four spades. Even though you cashed the ace and queen of clubs and tried to give your partner a ruff in clubs, dummy could ruff with the king of spades.

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago

The B class of the junior section of the YMCA elected six captains. These captains will pick their teams, dividing the membership of the class into as many teams for a continual contest in a variety of work. Elected captains were Robert Williamson, Waldo Stoddard, Frank Tuckey, Philip Heidenreich, Irwin Johnson and Frank Black.

H. H. Weatherspoon returned from an extended trip into Kansas where he marketed several carloads of apples grown in Grande Ronde valley.

The 290 acre farm of William Hill, 5 miles south of Elgin, was sold to F. E. Smith.

13 Years Ago

Enrollment in Eastern Oregon Normal school was 458.

About 50 members of the Odd Fellows and Rebekah lodges of La Grande attended the district association meeting in Union, with about 250 persons from Summerville, Elgin, Cove, Union and La Grande present.

Major R. R. Huron presented the \$10 prize to Sgt. Murray Jensen, the national guardsman at Union having the highest individual score in marksmanship. Jensen had an average score of 214 out of a possible 250 points.

10 Years Ago

If W. Guthrie drew every club in the deck giving him a double royal plus both nine-spots, when a group of friends were playing pinochle. The perfect hand broke up the game.

At the 11th anniversary of Company K, 186th Infantry, Lt. Andrews was elected captain by a unanimous vote of the 53 enlisted men. The election was conducted by Cpl. Alvin C. Baker, regimental commander.

Questions & Answers

Q—What do RAF pilots call the British jet plane Gloster Meteor?

A—The Squirt.

Q—How many electric motors go into a superfortress?

A—About 150.

Q—Where did the hot dog originate?

A—In the Rhineland.

This Curious World



A cartoon illustration of a rabbit with a speech bubble that says 'A DOMESTIC DOE RABBIT MAY SUPPLY ABOUT 50 POUNDS OF DRESSED RABBIT MEAT IN A YEAR.' Below it is a 'Quiz Korner' section with a question about President Roosevelt's first meeting and the answer 'Teheran, capital of Iran.' and 'NEXT: Homes of paper.'

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 26—Every trade has its tricks, and in gaining supremacy over the quick vanquished German Luftwaffe, U. S. army air force pilots have thought up numerous shifts and razzle-dazzle formations which are now in use east of the Rhine. A few of these tactics on which army aviators will now permit disclosure, are these:

Recently, Germans got hold of a Flying Fortress which landed safely in their territory without pilot or sign of life. The plane, was however, loaded with bombs and explosives. By some miracle it had not blown itself up on hitting the ground as was intended. That crash landing lifted the veil of secrecy on one of the most novel employments of "war weary" planes yet to be devised. Instead of being scrapped, these veterans of many raids are filled with explosives, taken aloft by their crews, who set the automatic pilots to fly the planes against German targets, and then let out.

The big Fortresses, like work horses headed by the bars, do the rest themselves, guided only by the robot brain in the automatic pilot.

Just Like Sitting Ducks

One of the tactical tricks used by U. S. air forces in knocking out the German Luftwaffe has been achieved through sending along more fighters than are actually needed to protect bombing missions. If 50 planes are needed to protect the bombers, 600 are sent. The extra 550 stay upstair or lag behind until the German interceptor planes make their passes at the bombers. Then the extra 500 follow the Germans back to their home base, catch them as they slowly land, or while they are on the ground being refueled, and destroy them by the thousand.

In fighter plane raids on railroads and highways, similar mass destruction tactics are employed. Instead of concentrating on strafing individual trucks and locomotives, allied fighters hold their fire till they create blocks. Knocking out a track at a culvert

causes the next truck to slow up for detouring. Catching that one and the next one creates a traffic jam, and after that every truck that comes along can be picked off.

Going after railroads, fighter-bombers drop bombs every half mile along 100-mile stretches of track. That creates real traffic jams which can easily be knocked out. When work crews come out to repair the mainlines, the fighters strafe the work crews. They cause a lot of absenteeism that way. Only German defense for such tactics is to move up all supplies at night. To date, no effective means of night low-altitude bombing and strafing has been worked out.

Tanks, Planes Co-operate

Close co-operation between air forces and Army ground forces in Europe, for securing close air support on the battlefield, has been achieved by creating "fighter-tank teams." The commanding officer of the fighter planes, instead of riding high in a fast pursuit ship, rides in a tank along with the armored forces commander. The command pilot is in radio communication with his planes, and calls in his fly boys to drop out of the sky and attack where it will do the most good.

prevent ground forces commanders from asking supporting combat planes to perform impossible tasks, air forces officers have devised a little jingle as a guide to target selection. Don't ask us to go after anything, say the air forces, unless it is "findable, hittable, vulnerable, @table."

When U. S. fighter group formations were cut down from 18 to 12 planes, the air forces found they achieved a number of highly desirable factors. Enemy fighters were divided up. In return, the bombers got more firepower because there was less danger of shooting into each other and more open space in which to shoot. The smaller number of planes in the group made a smaller target for anti-aircraft fire and, conversely, they got more targets with less dispersion.