

# EDITORIAL PAGE

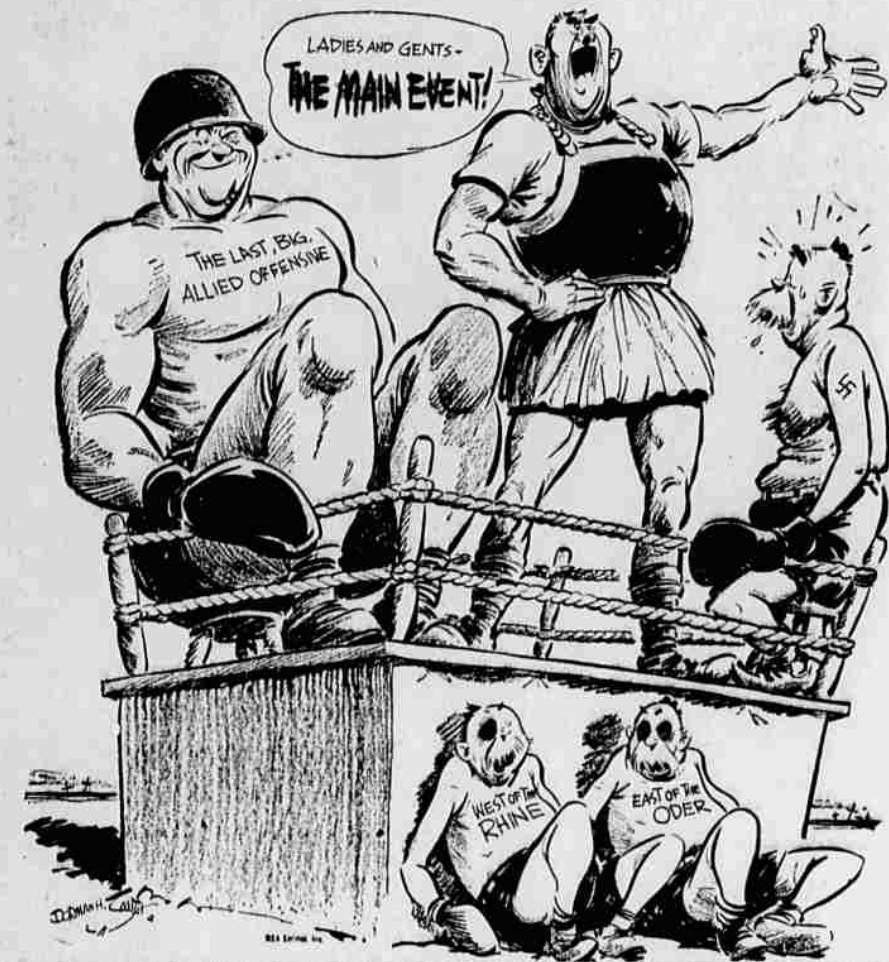
La Grande Evening Observer

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Now That the Preliminaries Are Over—



## 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

It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true. — John 8:17.

## THOUGHT FOR TODAY

For when one's proofs are aptly chosen, Four are as valid as four dozen. —Prior

## 'Miscalculation' by High Command

Among the less evident contributors to the present food crisis are Field Marshall von Rundstedt, the American soldiers who diverted military gasoline to the black market last summer, and the Frenchmen who bought it.

This was made clear, though not in so many words, by a member of parliament in a recent speech before the American chamber of commerce in London. Capt. Leonard Gammans, the M. P., said that ships which, in the light of present circumstances, might be carrying supplies for the British, French, Dutch and Belgians, have been diverted to the Pacific. And the reason is that the allied high command foresaw the end of the European war in 1944.

The high command seems to have been as hopeful of the breakthrough in France last summer as were the civilians back home. Obviously the loss of great quantities of fuel helped put the brakes to that swift mechanized advance. Then, after the promising con-

quest of Aachen, came Rundstedt's Belgian bulge offensive. And so the battle for Germany continues today.

Those were the two major disappointments in an otherwise brilliantly successful year. And somewhere along the line, either before them or despite them, the high command evidently decided that the war against Japan, the war that had to wait, could start picking up momentum.

Result of the consequent transfer of many vessels to the Pacific area is apparent in the tightening of food shipments to Europe. And while the shipping crisis isn't the whole story of the food problem, it is a big factor and a regrettable one.

But if we can see the unhappy result of this shift in less food for Europe's hungry millions, we can also see its heartening military result in the Pacific. And while it seems heartless to have to make the choice, it can scarcely be denied that the decision which brings victory closer is of first importance.

Stepping up of the Pacific war has certainly hastened the day of Japan's downfall, even though the decision that set it in motion may have been something of a miscalculation. It is scarcely necessary to say that without the new flow of supplies, the victories on Luzon, Mindanao, Panay and Iwo Jima would not have come so soon, nor would the raids on Japan's naval strength and war production have been so punishing.

The high command's "miscalculation" has put the United States in command of Japan's air, and of her eastern sea approaches almost to the shores of the home islands. It has dealt her navy another crippling blow, and played havoc with her supply routes. And while the great crucial battle with Japan's main army has still to be fought, Japan has already received the mortal wounds which she must carry into that battle.

## Funny Business



"I can't sleep well unless I'm over water!"

## SO THEY SAY

We took quality out of the nazi cockpits and put in quantity. I can state very positively that the German fighter is not what he was.

—Maj. Gen. Orvil A. Anderson, 8th AAF deputy commander.

German shipbuilding centers, shipbuilding trusts, "harmless" naval archives, naval museums and leagues must be prevented from being restored.

—Red Fleet, Russian naval publication.

The crux of the present military situation lies in the fact that only those belligerents will lose and those victors who are first to lose the ground under their feet.

—Goebbels.

When we enlarge the airfields on Iwo Jima we won't be restricted to hitting Tokyo. We can hit any part of Japan.

—Lt. Gen. Holland M. Smith, marine commander in Pacific.

# Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON -- Exciting war news largely obscured its significance, but this week the highest court of the land handed down one of its most important decisions in recent years—perhaps ranking alongside the Schechter sick chicken case invalidating the NRA.

This week's case, that of Georgia vs. the railroads, was largely a tribute to one man, Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia, who is fast becoming the south's greatest leader since the Civil war. Arnall conceived the case and came to Washington to argue it personally before the supreme court.

His victory this week means several things. From now on, when one of the 48 states suffers because of monopoly, it can come to the U. S. supreme court direct, without waiting to climb up through the district and appeals courts. Perhaps even more important, it means that neither the army nor the navy nor the president can stop enforcement of the Sherman anti-trust act if one of the 48 states wants to appeal over their heads to the supreme court.

For years the south has been beefing about freight rates fixed by Wall Street bankers and the railroads they control, which discriminated against the south. For years the south has been claiming it could not industrialize as long as it had to pay rates on what it manufactured higher than the east and midwest. For years, the onerousness of southeast governors and various U. S. senators have made this their chief campaign slogan.

But finally an unassuming little man from Georgia cut right to the heart of the whole matter, and without any palaver or politicking took the case to the supreme court—and won it.

### Arnall Abolishes Poll Tax

In all the foregoing years of beefing, no one had ever thought of doing this. But, also, no one had ever thought of doing a lot of other things with which Ellis Arnall has given Georgia the most progressive clean-cut government in decades.

No one, for instance, ever thought of abolishing the poll tax. Northern members of congress have been shouting about it for years. Southern senators, in turn, had been filibustering against it. It was a sore spot in the federal body politic. But Governor Arnall decided that the south should put its own house in order, not be reformed by others. So last month he quietly abolished the poll tax.

Arnall accomplished this miracle by a vote of 151 to 41 in the Georgia house and

a vote of 41 to 3 in the senate. Sentiment against the poll tax was overwhelming. Of course, the legislators knew that Arnall had unearthed a 100-year-old law giving the governor the right to remove certain measures from the statute books. But he never really used this threat. Perhaps one secret of his success is that Arnall spent a large slice of his young life in the legislature or in state government. He knows its members and they know him. He uses friendship rather than threats.

### Reduces Georgia Debt

Born 37 years ago at Newnan, Ga., Arnall was the son of well-to-do parents. "My granddaddy," he says, "got rich by working negroes for 25 cents a day." Since then, the grandson has maintained that "the negro problem is mostly economic; the balance political. It is not a social problem at all."

After leaving college, Arnall entered the legislature at the age of 25, became attorney general of the state at 30 and governor at 35.

### Revamps Constitution

But perhaps the biggest local accomplishment of Governor Arnall was streamlining the Georgia constitution. Most people outside the south don't realize that, after the Civil war, the south adopted iron-clad constitutions to protect them against carpet-baggers.

The constitution of Georgia, for instance, had been amended 301 times. It was unwieldy and impossible. It just wouldn't work under modern, streamlined conditions. So Arnall persuaded the legislature that Georgia couldn't go forward if it depended on the past. The constitution has now been completely rewritten and passed by a unanimous vote in the Georgia house.

### Supreme Court Victory

Arnall won his recent supreme court victory after he began studying the problem of returned veterans. He decided the state couldn't attract its returned veterans unless it had something to offer them in the way of industrial opportunity, and that the state couldn't industrialize as long as freight rates were against it.

In winning his decision before the supreme court, Arnall actually has won a victory for all the other states and for free competition throughout the nation.

Now, however, regardless of the army and navy, the supreme court has ruled that any state which is discriminated against as a result of monopoly can step in over the head of the federal government and be heard—all thanks to the fighting little 37-year-old governor of Georgia.

# WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

The townspeople of Kennebunkport, Me., are riled up over the mural in their local post office, done at a time when WPA artists were busy on such projects, and are trying to get rid of it.

The mural shows a group of bulgy bathers "covorting on a beach." The townspeople evidently don't like to look at fat women in brief bathing suits every time they go to post a letter.

Why this sudden revulsion for a mural several years old? Can it be that the luscious pin-up girls that the war brought forth have made the country more critical of the feminine figure?

If so, isn't there a hint for women in Kennebunkport's revolt against the feminine

form that is less than divine? With summer on its way, maybe women should stop and ponder the question.

If fat women in bathing suits painted on a mural are so repulsive to a pin-up girl conscious public, maybe women had better look a long time into their mirrors before they venture forth to sun themselves on public beaches.

It may be that with the pin-up girl's proportions in everybody's mind, the woman with a less than perfect figure will come in for a lot of unfair criticism and comparison this summer.

And, if she doesn't want to cause raised eyebrows and disdainful looks she had better do her sun bathing in her own back yard, until the pin-up portrait sinks into oblivion.

# Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—Possibility that the government may again be able to proceed against certain so-called monopolistic practices of labor unions under the Sherman anti-trust laws is at stake in two highly important cases now under consideration by the U. S. supreme court.

Legal action against labor union practices alleged to be in restraint of trade has been practically non-existent since the supreme court handed down its famous Hutcheson case decision in February, 1941. In this opinion, written by Justice Felix Frankfurter, labor leaders and the public in general were led to believe that union members cannot be prosecuted for any conspiracy to restrain interstate commerce under the Sherman act. Rather quietly, however, two cases have come up through the lower courts, one in New York City and one in San Francisco, which may challenge this broad interpretation and limit its application.

The San Francisco case grows out of a union agreement made between the A. F. of L. United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and the building contractors and lumber mills in the San Francisco bay area, in which it was stipulated that mill work—the making of doors, windows, mantels, and such trim—would be boycotted if made under wage scales lower than those in effect in the bay area contract.

Before this agreement was put into effect, 80 per cent of all the mill work used in the bay area had been made by lumber mills in Washington and Oregon and shipped into San Francisco and the northwest. Pay scales in the northwest were lower than in San Francisco, and northwestern mill work was therefore cheaper.

After the contract went into effect, 10 per cent of the mill work was done in the northwest, the other 90 per cent having to be done under the higher wage mills in the bay area.

Indirectly this was in the nature of a jurisdictional dispute because the northwestern mill work belonged to CIO unions, and by putting restrictions on the San Francisco mill production, the A. F. of L. union

was getting at its rivals. But the whole affair was a good example of union make-work policies, and U. S. attorneys, taking action against this practice as a conspiracy to restrain competition from other areas, won a conviction which was upheld in the U. S. court of appeals. Counsel for the carpenters then appealed the case to the supreme court.

The New York case grows out of a contract between A. F. of L. electrical workers and contractors, under which the electricians in New York City will not install equipment that has been wired outside the city. If a switchboard made in Schenectady, for instance, should be shipped to New York City for installation already wired, the New York City unions will install it only after they have ripped out the original wiring put in by either A. F. of L. electricians up-state and re-wired the thing themselves. Again, a beautiful example of union make-work policy if there ever was one. In this case an injunction was granted against enforcement of a union boycott on work done outside the city, but the injunction was upset in court of appeals, giving labor a victory. Government filed the appeal to the supreme court in this instance.

The two cases taken together have an obvious postwar significance in view of the tremendous possibilities of pre-fabricated housing development, if the Hutcheson case decision is given a broad interpretation. Prosecution of labor unions for monopolistic practices in restraint of trade will be impossible under this interpretation, anything a union does in its own self-interest is within the anti-trust laws.

But if the Hutcheson opinion is given a restricted interpretation, protecting the unions from anti-trust law prosecution only in the case of a jurisdictional dispute between two unions, then the way will be opened to the action in cases such as those outlined above in New York and San Francisco, where the issue is an agreement made not between two unions, but between a union and a party of the second part which is not a union.

## Side Glances



"When I gave orders to the men they respected me as a sergeant, but when I frown and growl at these kids they just laugh!"

## McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

### EKES OUT 4 HEARTS BY FORCING TRUMP

The mixed pair championship in the recent eastern states tournament was won by Amby Casner and Mrs. Barbara Collier Cook. The just nosed out Walter Malo-

Casner			
♠ 43	♥ QJ 10 8 5 4	♦ 9	♣ J 10 8 7
♠ 10 7 6	♥ A 9 6 3	♦ 8 4 2	♣ K 6 4
Dealer			
♠ A J	♥ K Q 9 8 5	♦ A Q 9 5	♣ K 2
Duplicate—E-W. vul.			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
3 N.T.	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Opening—♠ K.			

and discarded his losing spade. Seven of hearts was led from dummy. West played low and Casner put on the ten. Now, it is true that if he had finessed the eight, there would have been no problem, but that would be a double dummy play.

East won and led the queen of spades, which Casner trumped with a heart. The queen of hearts was then led, West won with the ace. The ten of spades was returned, declarer trumping with the five of hearts. Now the jack of clubs was finessed and lost to the king.

West returned a club, which was won in dummy, and now diamonds were led until West was forced to trump. This allowed the declarer to over-trump with the eight spot and pick up the nine with the queen.

## IN FORMER YEARS

### 30 Years Ago

A \$1500 corporation known as the La Grande Tennis Club, has been formed and title to a tract of land suitable for court purposes, passed into its hands. Two cemented courts were to be built. Sherwood Williams returned to his home in Imbler after being an overnight visitor in the city.

George T. Cochran, water superintendent for eastern Oregon, returned from a business trip to Pendleton.

### 15 Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Kooz, Miss Doris Warner and Charles Spaeth drove to Wallowa lake. Miss Kate Houx of the Ackerman training school returned from a speaking tour in John Day, Dayville and Monument.

Mrs. R. J. Kitchen returned from Portland where she visited her two daughters.

### 10 Years Ago

In honor of her ninth birthday anniversary, Miss Harriett Avery was hostess to a dozen young friends at a theater party. After the matinee, the group returned to the Avery home for refreshments.

Bill Bohnenkamp went to Portland to spend spring vacation visiting his grandmother.

Billy Gunn, senior at La Grande high school, went to Los Angeles for the spring vacation.

## This Curious World

