

EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

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Page Two

Bluebirds in the Springtime



* 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

And the Lord looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites; have not I sent thee? — Judges 6:14.

Where Is La Grande?

Something that has been bothering us for a long time came to our attention again the other day in a forcibly, albeit humorous, manner.

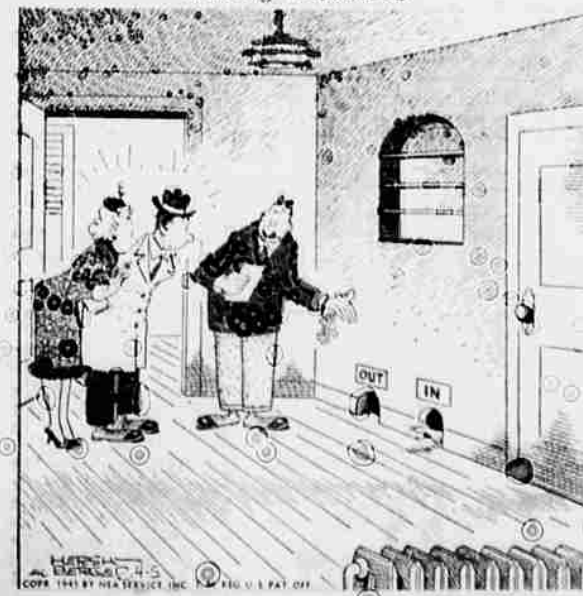
Considerably irked by the fact that Ernie Pyle, war correspondent and feature writer, designated La Grande in a recent story as "not far from Pendleton," L. H. "Les" Bramwell, Union banker, wrote us a brief note protesting vigorously against the designation, declaring it is something for our chamber of commerce to think over.

We agree without reservation with Les, but want to go a little further — this is something for every permanent inhabitant of La Grande and Union county to think over.

Without detracting from our neighbor across the Blue Mountains, we know that we in La Grande and our area feel that we have the greatest country in the world in which to reside. Difficultly is, we didn't tell enough people about it in the way we ought.

Pendleton is generally used as a locating designation point for Eastern Oregon cities. In our work, which necessitates much reading of news, publicity and advertising matter, the irk becomes a chronic irritation. However, we are forced to shrug it off as our own (collectively speaking) fault.

Funny Business



"You'll like the efficiency of my apartment!"

Pendleton has done a superlatively good job of publicizing itself. In whatever way possible, Pendleton is in the news and its activities seem to be scaled to that end. Its annual rodeo, thoroughly publicized, has brought much more to Pendleton than a big crowd of visitors once a year.

La Grande, on the other hand, has in effect been hiding its big floodlights under a lightproof bushel.

Our city and area offers everything to the prospective home-owner and wage-earner or businessman. As our population increases, (peculiarly enough — we are positive that an actual nose count would find La Grande in the same population bracket with Pendleton at the present time) the city will have much more to offer in the way of the finer services that a progressive city requires.

Geographically and scenically no one would presume to compare our area with Pendleton's surroundings. Belonging to us — in our immediate area — are mountains and streams incomparable in nature and, to use a trite word, they are abundant in fish and game. We have fine industrial possibilities and the greatest irrigable valley in the northwest.

Our climate is temperate and invigorating. It may scare off some that long for the warm breezes of the south seas, but it is a climate appreciated by strong, alert and aggressive people. (We say this not in spite of but because of yesterday's snow flurry.)

Yes, we have much more to publicize than has the Pendleton area. Let's get busy and do it. A real community spirit, pride in one's community, developed here in full degree will be a good start. Beyond that all we have to do is to point up and properly publicize our natural resources and develop our community activities.

The proper designation is: "Oh yes, Pendleton. That's near progressive La Grande, isn't it?"

• SO THEY SAY

You do not defend Italy in these battles, but Germany itself. Not one inch of ground must be surrendered to our enemies without a battle. Officers and men alike must be permeated with this thought.

—Field Marshal Gen. Albert Kesselring, German commander in Italy.

We do not intend simply to drive the Nazis and the Japanese out of the occupied countries and then scud from the world. We are part of the world and we propose to stay with it until we are sure that we have won what we are fighting for, a just and durable peace.

—Assistant Secretary of State Archibald MacLeish.

All our plans have been wrecked. Everybody is asking, "Shall we succeed in bridging the gap until the next crop comes in?"

—Joseph Stutz, German agricultural commissioner.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By NEW PRISON

WASHINGTON—Here is how the army will determine what men are to be discharged after the war in Europe is over. Special forms have been quietly sent to commanding officers in all theaters. They are to be distributed to the GI's who will fill them out, try to figure out the number of credits they have earned to give them a quick return home.

The one thing still undecided by the army is the number of credits necessary for immediate release. This columnist is able to reveal, however, that:

1. All credits will be determined as of the date the war in Europe is over.

2. Special credits will be given for overseas service, and overseas service will mean any service outside the continental limits of the U. S., including Alaska. Thousands of men who served in Alaska will receive overseas credit. Overseas service will be determined from the day a man leaves a port of embarkation.

3. Combat credit will be given only for those receiving the medal of honor, distinguished service cross, legion of merit, silver star, distinguished flying cross, soldiers' medal, bronze star, air medal, purple heart or bronze service stars for battle participation. No other awards or ribbons will be included.

4. Credit will be given for children who are under 18 years of age on the day the war in Europe ends, but for some mysterious reason the army will not allow credits for more than three children.

Note — One mystifying thing about the forms which have been secretly sent commanders overseas is that they make no provision for a serviceman's age, thus men over 38, many of whom have not been declared physically fit to go overseas, will have to sweat it out longer in uniform than younger men.

Henry Kaiser Conciliates

Few people realize it, and Shipbuilder Henry Kaiser is too modest to admit it, but he was the guiding genius behind the recently signed pledge for post-war industrial peace just promulgated by Eric Johnson, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, CIO president Phillip Murray and

A. F. of L. president William Green. Kaiser figured out the scheme last fall after seeing the terrific bitterness of the election campaign. He first approached Green, told him that if Green was sincere about believing in a 60,000,000-job program, management needed assurances of labor peace. Green was agreeable.

Next Kaiser visited Murray. Murray even pointed out that certain CIO unions were already trying to sign post-war compacts with employers, guaranteeing no strikes and full labor-management cooperation. Finally, Kaiser went to Johnson, sold him on the idea that a joint pledge by business and the two big labor groups would be a great help to the nation.

Johnson agreed to call the first meeting, hush-hush dinner in his Mayflower hotel suite, debated the entire proposal up, down and sideways.

Not content with a bare statement of unity and pledge of labor-management peace, Kaiser has now quietly proposed that the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, the AFL and the CIO set up a new, well-financed organization which can actively go about the business of contacting local labor leaders and local business men, preaching the gospel of cooperation on that level.

Petrillo Crackdown

Congress is so steamed up about the rambunctious practices of horn-tooter James Caesar Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians, and bushy-browed John L. Lewis, mine workers' chief, that responsible labor leaders are greatly worried that it may pass the Bailey bill.

Authorized by Senator Bailey, North Carolina conservative democrat, the bill provides that employer payments to a union for any purpose other than a check-off of union dues be outlawed.

This would invalidate the agreement Petrillo won after defying the record manufacturers and the government for two years, and which provides that the manufacturers pay his union a royalty on every record made. It would also rule out the 10-cent-per-ton coal royalty Lewis asked after he saw Petrillo get his.

See WASHINGTON . . . Page 4

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Everybody talks about the war wife's "loneliness."

But only a war wife knows the little every-day incidents that high-light her loneliness, that are sharp reminders that she is a woman entirely on her own.

And they're such little things: Going out after dark to put the car in the garage.

Seeing a man and woman working together in their yard, or hearing a woman say, "I must tell Jim about that."

Hearing a child ask, "But WHEN is daddy coming home?"

Hearing another woman worrying out loud about what to give Bill for dinner.

Seeing a father on an outing with his children.

Buying a silly hat she knows she won't be teased about.

Having a neighbor say, "Joe was an hour late last night—and I was fit to be tied."

Turning out the light at night and making sure the doors are locked.

Having to make an important family decision entirely on her own.

Night Out With Girls

Seeing a man in the uniform her husband wears with his wife beside him.

Walking home from a movie alone.

Planning a Saturday evening with "the girls."

Trying to find somebody to take down the storm windows, or mow the lawn.

Getting birthday greetings from her husband two weeks early or two weeks late.

Buying another box of V-mail stationery.

Standing alone at the door bidding guests "good-night."

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—Overseas OWI is becoming USIS, which is to say that the Office of War Information, its propagandizing job in the now-liberated United Nations having been washed up, is shifting to more peaceful pursuits and in the process is changing its name to U. S. Information Service.

The new USIS program has a decidedly cultural tilt. Cass Canfield, president of Harvard, is heading up the Paris outpost. Dr. C. R. Morey, chairman of the Department of Art and Archaeology in Princeton, is heading up the outpost in Rome. Dean James J. Robbins of American University, Washington, will be in charge at Stockholm. People like that.

Their job will be pretty much what Herbert Agar has done in London — making contacts and influencing the right people in the right direction, editors, educators, scientists and such — to re-establish cultural ties that became untied during the war. The psychological warfare stuff which was pretty much OWI's original overseas dish, is being dropped in the ashcan.

The cultural relations job which OWI—pardon, USIS—will be doing in the liberated countries will be entirely temporary. Within six months after the end of the war in Europe it will all be folded up, or whatever part of the program still remains worth doing will be handed over to the Cultural Cooperation boys in the Department of State.

MacLeish Sees "Golden Opportunity"

Assistant Secretary of State Archibald MacLeish spelled this out pretty thoroughly in recent testimony before the House Appropriations Committee. "We have a golden opportunity at the moment in the liberated areas of Europe as they open up. These people want help to help themselves. . . . We have people who know how to do things in public health, restoration of cities. . . . We have the printed matter, the scientific materials, the laboratory materials to help them help themselves."

"The Germans learned long ago that trade follows the book. People from the dim ages on down have learned that commerce follows your prestige as a nation, that people trade with a nation that knows how

to do things, that knows how to make things."

How this is being worked on in the new USIS offices can perhaps best be told by Dr. Lee Gershoy of OWI's Washington staff, just back from inspecting the Paris outpost.

Some 95 Americans plus 130 French helpers make up the staff, occupying several buildings. This staff of over 200 is perhaps bigger than the entire U. S. diplomatic mission in Paris before the war.

They put out a specialized press, radio, photographic and general information service. "News of America" is a daily mimeographed bulletin in French that goes to 1500 clients. "Document of the Week" takes one subject—lend-lease, Bretton Woods, Dumbarton Oaks—and goes to town on it with 10,000 words to give French editors and libraries information they have been deprived of. "Chronicle of the U. S." gives them a similar fill-in on U. S. domestic affairs.

U. S. Newsreels Distributed

Negotiations are under way to put U. S. newsreels in all French movie houses. An exhibit of 200 U. S. photographs giving a picture story of the last four years is making the circuit of 200 French towns.

There is a lecture service for schools. There are libraries and reference materials. French magazines, printed in the U. S., are distributed. Thirty U. S. best sellers have been translated into French, printed in editions of 250,000 for the French book trade. Ultimately, files of publications for the past five years will be sent over.

There is a staff of nine people to run down false rumors about Americans and get them corrected over the radio and in the French press. For France, after a long war and a hard winter, with a million-and-a-half homes destroyed, with three million citizens missing and held prisoners by the Germans, with 30 million of them hungry, is a psychologically sick country.

Not having been permitted to complain under the Nazi heels, the French are now like and kicking about everything—lack of food, the Yalta conference, Dumbarton Oaks. That gives USIS plenty to do, and it will have practically the same things to do in every liberated country in Europe.

Side Glances



"Jim said in his letter that I should change the baby's name to Samuel! That's for Jim's sergeant—his colonel wasn't sufficiently impressed with the honor!"

• McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

(This is the first of three articles on the Warren slam convention.)

The Warren slam convention, developed by a group of players at Warren, Pa., including Dr.

In order to make this bid, two aces or an ace and a void suit must be held.

3. A response of five clubs shows one point or less; five diamonds, two points; five hearts, three points; five spades, four points and five no trump, five points.

After South responded five no trump, showing five points, it was not hard for North to bid seven. If the club suit failed to break (as it did), the diamonds could be tried and the contract made.

• IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago

"Intrinsic value of the rains that have fallen in Union county the past week cannot be estimated, further than to say that what now looks like a 2,000,000 bushel wheat crop would have failed had rain delayed much longer. As it now is, the crops are green and growing nicely everywhere in the county."

Two masked bands held up a state between Rainbow mine and Durkee and escaped with \$7000 in gold bullion.

15 Years Ago

Spring vacation started in the La Grande schools to continue until April 14.

With about 20 men in attendance at a meeting in the city hall a La Grande branch of the Organized Labor's Political League of Oregon was formed and temporary officers were elected. O. B. Macken was elected chairman, Otto Pieper, vice-chairman and Louie Evans, secretary.

The flour mill at Union has been working overtime lately, getting out a shipment of flour for the Orient.

10 Years Ago

A loan fund available to senior women at the Eastern Oregon Normal school was announced by the La Grande branch of the American Association of University Women.

La Grande stores announced they would remain open until 8 o'clock on Saturday night.

The fire department reported five calls were answered during March, but there was no property damage.

This Curious World



ANSWER: Because it lies directly on the equator.

NEXT: A horn that's not horn.