

# EDITORIAL PAGE

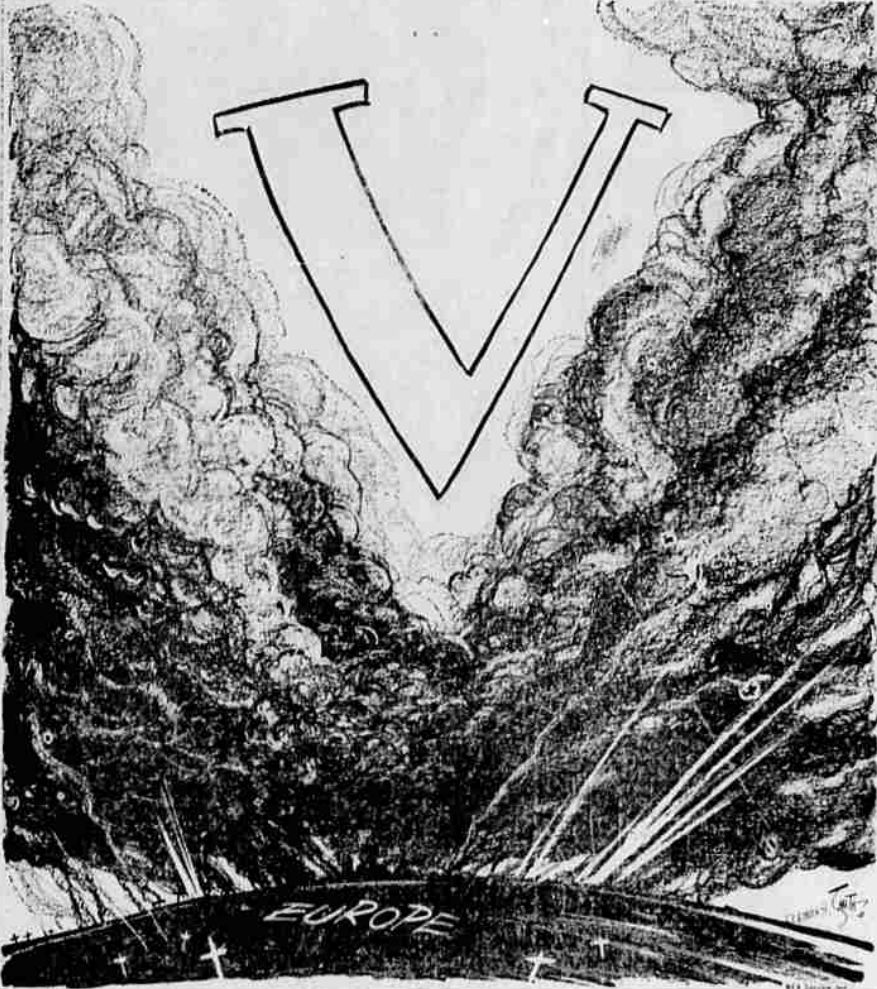
## La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 5, 1945

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### Breaking Through



#### 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 said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face?—Joshua 7:10.

#### THOUGHT FOR TODAY

The dog that trots about finds a bone.—Borrow.

#### Their Sunday-Best

In our town these spring Sundays will bring out frocks, soft woolen suits, bright new bonnets. Dressed in our Sunday-best, scrubbed and clean, we go to church, visit our friends, enjoy the peace of the day.

In another town the people are in their Sunday-best, too. They wear rags, straw, newspaper. Mothers, fathers and children take turns going to church because there isn't enough ragged clothing to cover all of them. In thousands of war-ravaged towns like theirs, people are stripped and destitute. These are the people of liberated Europe, 125,000,000 of them. There is no dignity in their days.

And there is no dignity for us, no true peace in our Sundays until we give what little help we can. Our government and the major war relief agencies have arranged to get our used clothing to Europe. Ships and planes will take our old shoes, suits, coats, bedding, dresses into Greece, Russia, Yugoslavia, France, Holland, Belgium, wherever the need is greatest. We are asked only to rummage through our closets and attics, to give away our cast-offs.

This clothing drive, the United Na-

tional clothing collection, is being conducted throughout the nation. Schools, churches, factories, clubs, are spearheading the campaign. Our town, along with others, must help collect the 150,000,000 pounds of clothing needed. Each family is asked to give five pounds per person.

Your contribution will demonstrate to our allies the spirit of democracy.

#### Decline of the Cuss Word

H. L. Mencken discusses profanity in the Columbia University quarterly, American Speech, with the scholarship and enthusiasm which he typically bestows upon our language. We find it a little hard to share his nostalgic regret of the passing of true profanity since the Civil War, with only faint revivals in the world wars of 1918 and today.

But we do share his concern at the substitutes which are replacing cuss words for purposes of invective. Mr. Mencken lists such tags as plutocrat, Rotarian, isolationist, anti-semitic, nazi and new dealer by way of illustration. He is careful to call these words "intrinsically innocuous," which they are. But in intent and connotation they can become exceedingly opprobrious. They can accuse a man of anything from smugness to treason.

Used specifically, of course, they are perfectly good and necessary words. But they throw upon their user the burden of documentary proof. This proof the user is frequently unable to give, and the listener is too frequently unwilling to demand it.

General insult is preferable to particular accusation. And most of us, if we had to choose, would rather be called a damned fool than a communist or fascist. So if this new vague but categorical adjectives continues, we are going to join up with Mr. Mencken in movement to restore damn and hell to a more general use.

#### Funny Business



"Oh, boy! Will that surprise Greedy Gus!"

#### SO THEY SAY

We have received somber warnings of the tremendous number of who's who by reason of the war have become neurotic or have developed mental abnormalities. Investigation have shown the principal causes of maladjustment occur among those who entered the service with a neurotic or psychological imbalance.

Frank H. Bowles, director of admissions, Columbia U.

The manufacture of new equipment for the transferred troops will require sustained heavy effort by industry for months after Germany's fall.

WPA Chairman Julius A. Krug

Our pilots every day see the modern German fighting force parked on airbases for want of fuel. They average 20 gallons daily. We average more than 2000.

Li-Gen, Iva C. Eaker, Mediterranean theater air chief.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DEWE PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Tip-off as to how Joe Stalin feels about smaller nations was given more than a year ago in a private talk with Cuban Ambassador Conchoso. It gave a significant indication of why Stalin demands three votes in the United Nations assembly.

Stalin amazed the ambassador with his knowledge of Cuban labor and economic problems, but talked as if Cuba were part of the United States. Conchoso explained that the Platt amendment had been abrogated and Cuba now had complete political freedom. But this made little impression on Stalin. He viewed Cuba as wedded to the U. S. A.

Then he turned to Argentina. And with considerable vehemence, he remarked that it was about time the United States took Argentina in hand and forced it to join the Allies. Stalin's eyes flashed when he talked of Argentina and he seemed to believe that the United States had complete control of the American continent.

Ambassador Conchoso explained that Argentina was a long way off and that the United States took pains to respect the independence of Latin American states. But Stalin seemed unconvinced.

#### Stalin's Border States

Since then, evidence has increased that the Soviet considers Latin America as a bloc which will always vote with the United States; smaller nations close to a big power as legitimate satellites of that power.

For instance, when Winston Churchill visited Moscow last summer, Stalin was very frank in saying that Russia must have a series of states on her western border—Poland, Roumania, Finland—which were friendly to her. He made it plain that the Soviet would not tolerate for a minute a government in these bordering states which did not cooperate with the U. S. S. R. Since then, Stalin has changed the government of Roumania so it suited him, has forced the Allies to accept the Polish Lublin government, and has caused a government turnover in Finland.

So the coldly realistic Stalin figures that the tactics he employs with his neighbors are employed also by the U. S. A. with its neighbors; and if not, then it's this country's fault. In fact, his only complaint to

the Cuban ambassador was that the United States didn't crack down on Argentina.

#### 16 Soviet Votes

Stalin's views regarding small countries were expressed quite clearly at the closed-door session of the Dumbarton Oaks conference. Ambassador Gromyko pointed out that Russia, occupying one-sixth of the earth's surface, would have only one vote, while the British commonwealth would have six.

Stettinius replied that the United States, almost as large as Russia, had only one vote and was not complaining. Gromyko countered with the reminder that the United States dominated 29 Latin American republics and could swing 21 votes.

For a while, the Dumbarton Oaks parley was completely deadlocked. But, finally, Gromyko revealed that his government planned to organize 16 Soviet republics.

At this, both Roosevelt and Churchill hit the ceiling. In the end, Russia agreed to postpone the question of 16 votes until Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin could sit down together. This was what FDR faced at Yalta.

#### Byrnes Steps Out

For a long time, soft-spoken little Jimmy Byrnes, the president's all-round handyman, has been wanting to retire from office. He has been working all hours of the day and night, is tired, in poor health and in need of a physical check-up.

For a long time, also, the gentleman from South Carolina has been keeping a book on his chief in the White House. It's not exactly a diary, but a record of things Jimmy was promised but never got. Probably he'll never publish it. In fact, only his close friends know it exists. But those that do say it puts the chief in a bad position when it comes to keeping promises.

First, there was the vice-presidency. Byrnes got the impression that FDR would welcome him as his running-mate. But, when he got to Chicago, he was instructed to "clear it with Sydney Hillman." That was where the "clear it with Sydney" phrase, so effectively used by the Republicans, got started. Byrnes told it to Bernie Baruch, Baruch told it to Arthur Kroek, and, on that score Jimmy got his revenge. See WASHINGTON . . . Page 6

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Maybe you thought when you read that USO hostesses are being given a special course to fit them for their association with wounded service men, "I wish we could all have a course like that."

If so, you'll want to know the 10 rules that hostesses at the Martinsburg, W. Va., USO Club—which serves convalescents from a large general hospital—have found to be invaluable in giving service men the kind of companionship they need.

There are five "don'ts." Don't ask questions about war experiences or pry into personal affairs. Don't stare at plaster casts, artificial limbs or eye patches. Don't oppose opinions unnecessarily. Arguments may cause a deep-felt resentment. Don't try to be too helpful or pampering. Don't pity.

The rest of the rules are "Do's." Be a good listener. Have confidence in the serviceman, that despite handicaps, if any, he

can and will make a go of civilian life. Let the serviceman blow off steam. Learn geography. One of the serviceman's interests will be foreign countries. Have patience.

#### Learn Rules

These are rules we all ought to learn and be ready to follow when we need them. For though no one in your own family may come home wounded, there will be a neighbor's boy who will, or someone in the office, or a stranger at a party or beside you on a train.

And you don't want to make any mistakes—even in casual contacts—with the men who are struggling to overcome terrible handicaps.

You won't make any serious mistakes if you know beforehand the kindest way to behave toward the wounded men who have come back.

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer, Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—Plans for dealing with the German people after the collapse of the Nazi army are again being talked of in Washington.

OWI Director Elmer Davis and his deputy for the European theater, Wallace Carroll, have quietly left Washington for London and Paris. They will visit Supreme Allied Headquarters, confer with Military Government officials, and bring back details on the final phases of psychological warfare which might be continued even after the German armies are defeated.

Last summer, when it was thought the Nazis would fold before the snow-flies, there was a whole shelf of plans made for dealing with the German people. Some 1400 people were trained in the OWI school outside New York City, for a variety of jobs in European outposts. But when the Germans didn't immediately throw in the sponge, the plans were kept on the shelf and the training school was closed. Now new plans will have to be made to meet changed conditions and OWI must do additional recruiting.

The job apparently cut out for OWI in Germany will be entirely different from what it will be in any other country. In function will be pretty much in the nature of organized censorship and public relations in connection with military government.

It will be a part of the government occupation of a country where for the 10 years there have been no privately owned newspapers or radio, all informational activities being run by the propaganda ministry of Hitler. It will be a choice collection of grifters, extortionists, thugs.

Persons Problem Difficult. All these things will have to be installed and the G.I.s finally approved for the jobs will have to be hand-picked. The question is where to find the personnel. Prisoners of war may furnish a few eligible candidates. Refugees wanting to go back may not be welcomed. Whom to trust in Germany is indeterminate in advance. There

are bound to be many sad experiences.

For a time, therefore, it is obvious that there will have to be an American sitting in every newspaper office, every radio station permitted to do business in the U. S. zone of occupation. Furthermore, every book manuscript offered for publication will have to be carefully censored.

The ability to re-educate the German people through controlling their sources of information is a big question for debate. While its desirability cannot be questioned, such realists as Douglas Miller, who wrote "You Can't Do Business With Hitler," long before the United States got into the war, are extremely skeptical about being able to do much re-education. Miller, a former consular officer in Germany and now head of OWI's German division, broadcasting regularly to Germany from Washington, puts greater hope in the possibility that enough good Germans will appear to do the re-educating job themselves.

Schools will be under the Civil Affairs Division of the army. All schools will be closed at the beginning of the occupation. An interesting subplot of the Soviet army occupation of eastern Germany is that the Russians closed all the schools but opened up the churches which were centers of Nazi resistance.

Universities will probably be kept closed indefinitely. Elementary schools will be the first to be opened. For the big hope of the future is in getting a good education out of the right trees as soon as possible. At first, it may be necessary to re-employ many teachers with war records, but it is believed they can teach safe subjects like arithmetic. It is expected that enough new teachers can be investigated to broaden the instruction. Some of the things about the Nazis that the G.I.s taught the people to accuse each other and that has already helped considerably in weeding out the undesirable character in German social life. With the plaudits of the old mysteries of paganism, enlightenment and education, there can be no course be no trick.

### Side Glances



"I noticed the boss sizing up your new spring outfit, dear—you look like a million dollars. But I hope he doesn't think we're too prosperous!"

## McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

#### WARREN SLAM USES INFORMATIVE DOUBLE

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

In using the Warren slam convention, interference bidding by the opposing players does not furnish any obstacle. Often, of course, non-vulnerable opponents seek to take paying sacrifices in such situations.

In using the Warren convention, the manner in which opposition bidding is handled is

▲ Q 10 9 7	6 4	None	♦ Q 9 7 4 2	▲ 4 3
▲ A 5	10 8 3	▲ 6	▲ J 10 8 6 5 2	
W	N	E	S	Dealer
▲ 8 3 2	▲ 10 3 4 2	▲ K J 10	▲ 9 7	
▲ K	▲ A K Q 9 7 6	▲ 8 5 3	▲ A K Q	
South	West	North	East	
1 ♠	1 ♠	2 ♠	2 ♠	
3 ♣	3 ♣	4 ♣	Pass	
4 N T	5 ♠	Double	Pass	
7 ♠	7 ♠	Pass	Pass	
7 N T	Pass	Pass	Pass	
Opening—▲ 10				6

shown in today's hand. If the response had been a higher bid than that made, the responder would have bid as though nothing had happened. If it had been a lower bid, he would have passed, and if his response had been the same as the opponent

#### Questions & Answers

Q—Where is the Petain government now?  
A—Moved from Sigmaringen to Garmisch, Germany, south of Munich, reports say. Sigmaringen is only 75 miles east of the Rhine.

Q—What famous inventor was born at recently captured Mainz, Germany?  
A—Johann Gutenberg, credited with inventing movable type.

Q—How are the two Frankfurts in Germany distinguished?  
A—Frankfurt-on-the-Main and Frankfurt-on-the-Oder.

Q—What was the Diet of Worms?  
A—The diet held in 1211 before which Martin Luther defended his religious beliefs. (Worms's prewar population was 47,000.)

made, he would have doubled. North had a count of exactly four points. If West had passed, his response would have been five spades, but as West bid five spades, he doubles to show a count of four.

Now of course, North had supported hearts and bid clubs and South definitely knows that he has the two missing aces so he is fairly safe in bidding seven no trump.

## IN FORMER YEARS

#### 30 YEARS AGO

While toying with a telescope purchased by a group of men in the city during the Halley comet episode, Perry Oliver located several well-defined sun-spots. Customarily sun-spots indicate electrical disturbances and storms in general.

The Mitchell Hotel, a landmark in Joseph for a quarter century, was purchased by A. A. Gust, Seattle real estate man.

#### 15 YEARS AGO

Standard highway stop signs are to be installed throughout Union county within the next month or two through the cooperation of the Oregon State Motor association, the state highway commission and the county.

About 50 Eastern Oregon school superintendents and principals gathered at the Eastern Oregon Normal school building for the opening of the spring meeting of their association.

Sergeant Ramsay caught a 30-inch steelhead in the Grande Ronde river near the bridge below the Perry dam.

#### 10 YEARS AGO

The opening of the fishing season in Oregon meant practically nothing in La Grande with a high blanket of snow on the ground at day light and occasional flurries during the morning. Few fishermen went after trout, although scores were ready to sail forth as soon as weather conditions improved.

The Eastern Oregon social workers conference attracted a large attendance of residents of the district.

Miss Shirley Zion, student at La Grande high school, was spending the spring vacation in Walla Walla.

### This Curious World

**A WONDERFUL HORN HAS THE RHINO!**

ANCIENTS BELIEVED THE HORNS OF A RHINOCEROS HAD CURATIVE POWERS AND PAID FABULOUS PRICES FOR THEM TO BRING INTO MEDICINE.

ONE OF THE LONGEST HORNS ON RECORD WAS MORE THAN SIXTY INCHES IN LENGTH.

THEY ARE NOT MADE OF BONE OR HORN, BUT HAIR FIBERS TIGHTLY PACKED TOGETHER.

IF YOU GET GOOD BREAKS, YOU WON'T GO BROKE, Says DENNIE KEHO, Waterbury, Wisconsin.

**THE WOMAN HAZEL**

BLOODS ONLY DURING WINTER MONTHS... FROM LATE IN OCTOBER TO EARLY MARCH.

NEXT: Ancient cure for nagging wives.