

EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

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Alles Kaput



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

For to him that is joined to all the living there is hope: for a living dog is better than a dead lion.—Ecclesiastes 9:4.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Everything that thou reprovest in another, thou must most carefully avoid in thyself.—Cicero.

Plain Speaking

Reports from Washington say that President Truman talked right "on the line" to soviet foreign minister Molotov, who "appeared to appreciate" the vigor and positiveness with which the president expounded the American viewpoint on the Polish situation.

This is in line with reports from Moscow that Mr. Molotov's superior, Premier Stalin, enjoyed the bluntness of the late Wendell Willkie and of President Eric Johnston of the U. S. chamber of commerce when those gentlemen visited his capital.

And these reports might be an object lesson to a perhaps small but very vocal segment of our public, which appears to feel that Marshal Stalin is so sensitive, or petty, that he can not endure frankness or friendly disagreement on any point.

Certain publicists seek to create an impression that the United States and Great Britain have only two options—either to "yes" Moscow slavishly on everything, however violently it may offend against every democratic in-

stinct, or to fight the soviet. Cooperation with Russia, these soft-soapers feel, can be had only at the price of letting the Kremlin run the show.

That, in our opinion, is poppycock. Neither Stalin nor his associates are that petty. They are, properly, doing their best to advance what they consider Russia's long-term interests—just as Churchill is Britain's and we trust Truman will this country's.

But Stalin is a prime realist. He knows that his Russian interests and our American interests do not always coincide. He will press his full claims as far as he can hope to make them stick. But he, no more than we, wants to go to war over anything short of the unavoidable. And, if it is his friendship and admiration we seek, we will get them more quickly by standing up for our own interests and principles than by standing up for our own interests and principles than by cheap boot-licking.

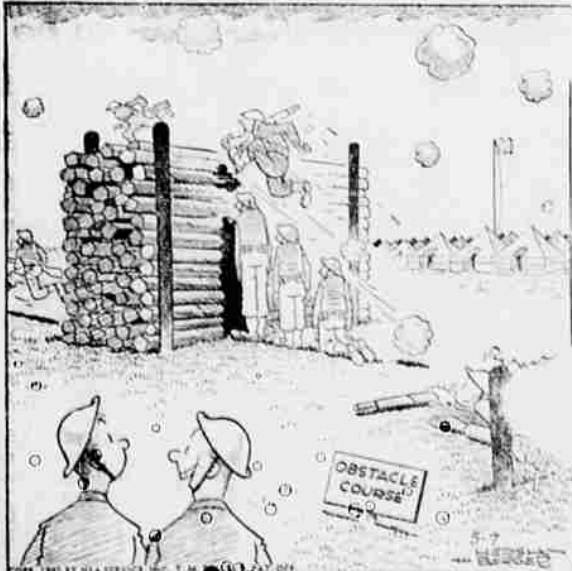
The communist regime has felt, understandably, that every man's hand was against it. Moscow was courteously sold down the river long enough so that we can not expect to kid Stalin by pulling our punches.

What Moscow wants, Stalin demands. What Moscow dislikes, wholly-controlled soviet journals condemn bitterly and sometimes violently. Stalin does not assume that the price of cooperation must be his playing Casper Milquetoast. Why should we?

At the San Francisco conference certain decisions must be made that involve disagreements between Russia and the Anglo-American democracies. Are those decisions to be made by conciliation and cooperation or by unilateral action of Moscow, accepted, sulkily but docilely, by us?

President Truman's positive, vigorous conversations with Mr. Molotov set a tone that is distinctly encouraging.

Funny Business



"Frankly, I think Sarge is going to frown on that sort of thing!"

SO THEY SAY

German war prisoners should be thoroughly indoctrinated into the workings of democracy. Although forcible indoctrination is prohibited by the Geneva convention, force should be used, if necessary, because the United States is the only country to observe the convention.

—Rep. Richard F. Harless (D) of Arizona.

The biggest task of San Francisco is not negotiation, not charter drafting. It is to create an organization which will be imbued with a righteous spirit, an active principle.

—John Foster Dulles of New York, adviser to U. S. delegation.

The great cause of peace and good-will on earth is very much in the hands of the press, perhaps now the most potent force in the states and in large parts of the civilized world.

—Field Marshal Jan Christiaan Smuts, premier of the Union of South Africa.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

SAN FRANCISCO—There is an important parallel to be drawn between San Francisco and Versailles. It may have repercussions that will effect the future peace of the world.

At the Versailles peace conference, Woodrow Wilson lost out to the other members of the Big Four on point after point. He had to compromise on Yugoslavia, on Italy, on various boundary questions. Most of all he had to sign a treaty of alliance with France and England in order to get his league of nations accepted.

The American public felt Wilson had yielded too much. At that time we were just feeling our oats internationally. We felt that the American army had really won the war—though some of our allies disagreed. The great middle west was convinced that if Europe didn't want to play ball with us, we could thumb our noses at Europe and get along perfectly well in our own.

That view eventually was reflected in the senate's rejection of Woodrow Wilson's treaty and another war became inevitable.

Today, Soviet Russia occupies very much the same spot as the United States in 1919 and 1920.

The Soviet today has the greatest resources in the world. It is more self-sufficient than any other nation. It feels that its armies bore the major burden of this war—though some of their allies disagree. The leaders of Russia, especially the generals, are reported believing that the Soviet can get along on its own without the rest of the world, if the outside world doesn't want to play ball.

Meanwhile, their Woodrow Wilson of San Francisco—Foreign Minister Molotov—has been turned down on points. Some of his points have seemed poorly conceived and out of place and he has not always handled himself diplomatically. But the effect of Russian public opinion is the main thing that counts, the effect which is registered on the potential isolationists of this new peace era.

And that effect obviously must be bad. Just as the American public in 1919 saw their representative rebuffed at Versailles, so the Russians see their man rebuffed at San Francisco. They don't remember the Molotov victories, only the rebuffs. And that is why when the final history of this peace era is written, the vote against Molotov on Argentina may be the straw that broke the back of Russian world cooperation. Molotov only asked for four days to think over the question of Argentine admission. His pleas probably would have the support of two great

figures, one dead, one ill—Franklin Roosevelt and Cordell Hull—both virorously opposed to fascist Argentina.

Four days to consider the Argentine question was not much to ask, and yet Secretary of State Stettinius missed the cue to make a gesture toward Russia. Molotov made his plea for a delay on Argentina in the best democratic tradition. In open plenary session, in the rough and tumble of American democratic debate. In the end, Argentina would have been admitted anyway, but the delay would have helped Russian opinion at home. This small point may turn out one of the most important at the conference.

For, if the Russians find themselves outvoted too frequently and too overwhelmingly, they may do what the U. S. senate did to Woodrow Wilson. And a peace organization without Russia, like a league of nations without the United States, would mean another world war unquestionably.

The San Francisco debates over Poland, Argentina and the framework for preventing future war are all-important. But while these talks are progressing, bickering continues backstage over the very tangible problems effecting diapers, shirts and cotton dresses. In the end, these may tinge international friendships almost as much as debates over Poland.

At present a controversy is raging over cotton shipments to France. The row is with French textile manufacturers who won't produce cotton duck for U. S. army tents and other military purposes, even though we send them the raw cotton via lend-lease. We are trying to produce more military duck in France in order to use textile mills in this country for women's dresses, diapers, children's clothes and overalls.

And under the lend-lease agreement, France is supposed to use all the raw cotton we send her exclusively for military purposes.

However, Col. Robert Stevens of the U. S. quartermaster corps, former president of the large New York textile firm of J. P. Stevens, has just come back from France with a report that not one yard of badly needed duck has been woven by French manufacturers. As a result the army wants to cut off further lend-lease cotton shipments to France.

French textile mill operators claim they have five years of last production to make up, and are determined to concentrate on turning out fine goods for civilian use. They claim also they are weaving quantities of

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WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

If we really wanted to get some feeling into our speech today, we'd discard some of our old comparisons for new ones.

We'd say, for instance, "He hasn't a red ration point to his name."

Or, "He'd give his last cigaret."

And how about, "As welcome as a V-letter."

Or, "About as dependable as a tire running on its third re-tread."

Or even, "She's the kind of woman who feeds her kids oleo and serves butter to her important guests."

Or, "As long as a cigaret line."

Or, "An under-the-counter customer."

You'd get the idea just as quickly if some-

one said, "You're as welcome as a T-bone steak."

Or, "As cautious as though she were spending her last shoe stamp."

Or, "She treats her husband as though she expected him to give notice."

Or, "Careful as a woman putting on her last pair of nylons."

Or, "As unpredictable as the army."

Just as graphic would be "Short as a leave."

Or, "A dress that should have been given to the United Nations relief drive."

Or maybe, "Scarce as a furnished apartment."

And certainly, "I'd rather face the ration board."

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO—Neatest trick, which the Soviet Russian delegation has pulled at this United Nations conference is at the St. Francis hotel, where they got possession of a private kitchen and dining room up on the 12th floor, which is French headquarters, together with a private elevator connecting it with the 10th floor, which is Russian headquarters. Funniest angle on the whole business is that the French didn't know anything about it although the Provisional Government of France now looks on Soviet Russia as its strongest ally and closest friend.

But that's how things are at San Francisco, and it's typical, for the close-mouthed Russians have become the big mystery operators of the conference.

The little matter of the Russian kitchen corridor into French territory at the St. Francis came about through the Soviet delegation's desire to have a private dining room for Foreign Commissar V. M. Molotov. There wasn't anything available on the 10th floor, to which the Russians had been assigned, but up on the 12th was a beautifully paneled suite in which the late Mrs. George Post, widow of a fabulously wealthy west coast lumber king, had lived for some years in lavish surroundings.

Mrs. Post died a few months ago. Most of her antiques and art treasures had been disposed of by her estate and there had been no takers for her humble abode, though the housing shortage here is pretty acute. The Soviet advance men looked over this private suite P in its pristine elegance and being a practical people able to get along with the bare essentials of life, decided it would do.

The question was how to get from their offices and bed rooms on the 10th floor up to the 12th floor. There are several connecting stairways and public elevators, but they wouldn't do. It just happened that adjoining Mrs. Post's suite was a hotel service elevator. It was turned over to the Russians, people. They put on their own operator, hoisted off the shaft from 10th to 12th floor, and with wife P, installed their own chef in Mrs. Post's kitchen and it's theirs.

they decide they want to go home.

Molotov doesn't spend much time at the hotel and he has taken only a few meals in suite P. Most of the time he's not at the conference is spent at the Soviet consulate. Some of the correspondents taxied out to see what went on, but Russian plainclothesmen didn't let them get out of the cab.

When Molotov is at the St. Francis, where he has plush office space, parlor, bedroom and bath, an American MP is stationed at the 10th floor public elevator exits and nobody gets off who hasn't business.

Molotov went to a movie Sunday night, to see news reels of the conference opening. Four rows of seats were reserved and he entered surrounded by a flying wedge of guards. When he sat down he was surrounded. He stayed only about a quarter of an hour.

Much has been made of the Russian communications ship anchored out in the bay. Rumors have flown that Ukraine and White Russian and even Lublin Polish delegations are out there, waiting for the correct moment to appear. But both the British and the Americans had similar radio communication ships at Yalta for the Crimean conference, so it's nothing new.

How many Russians are at the consulate, on the ship, or staying at the hotel, nobody knows. St. Francis management has no idea how many Russian guests it has. It knows definitely it has 23 out of the 46 delegations and it knows the names and room numbers of 475 delegates and advisors in 22 out of the 32 delegations, plus 26 liaison men from the coordinator's office for the 13 Latin-American delegations. The St. Francis is easily the most cosmopolitan center in town, swarming with rubberneckers and autograph seekers. But on the 23rd delegation, the Russians, the St. Francis management just gave up. The first 30 arrivals, including 12 women secretaries, were duly registered. But when clerks found they couldn't read the Russian signatures they just let the later arrivals move in and take over the whole floor, doing with it what they wish.

Side Glances



"I guess that looks showy enough—I want something pretty snappy though that'll match up to my son's uniform so he'll be proud of me when he comes home!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

BEGINNING: SERIES ON SUIT DIRECTING

(This is the first of six articles discussing the suit directing convention.)

The most modern playing convention in use today is the suit directing play, so in order to again familiarize my readers with this convention, I am going to

♠ K 10 9 4 2	♥ Q 10 8 4 2		
♦ J 10	♣ 6 3		
♠ A 8 7	♥ A 6 5		
♦ Q 8 7 6 4	♣ A K 9 5		
♠ 7 2	♥ 3		
♠ Q J 5	♥ 10 8 6 3		
♦ K J 7			
♣ 2			
♠ A K Q 9 5 4			
Bridge—N-S, vul			
South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	1♠	2♦
3♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening—♦ K.			

er of the two suits not trump.

Before playing to the first trick, west had to stop and count his defensive tricks. The bidding practically marked north with five hearts. That meant that east had only two hearts.

Therefore west played the queen of diamonds, asking his partner to shift to a heart. West won the heart trick with the ace and returned a heart.

Now you can see what happened. As soon as trump was led from dummy, west jumped in with the ace and led a third heart, giving his partner a ruff to defeat the contract.

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago, May 5

Avery Harrison, chief clerk in the mechanical office of the La Grande division of the O-W railroad and Mrs. Harrison left for an extended tour through the east. They planned to visit Wilkesbarre, Pa., New York, Detroit, Buffalo, Chicago and Omaha.

Col. and Mrs. W. S. Iwanhoe were visiting in Pendleton. Entries for the Eastern Oregon Inter-scholastic meet here amounted to almost 100.

15 Years Ago, May 5

Roy Forrester won the third and deciding leg on the Hot Lake Sanatorium trophy at Lone Tree yesterday in the final trapshoot of the Oregon-Idaho telegraphic competition.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Gralapp were complimented at a surprise wedding anniversary party at their home. Three tables of bridge were at play with Ira Woodie winning first honors and Miss Florence Williams receiving second award. Those in charge of arrangements were Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Evans and Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Towler.

10 Years Ago, May 5

Six permits were issued for alterations and repairs to La Grande houses owned by the state involving expenditure of \$5549.12.

Dr. James J. D. Haun turned in the best 18-hole score of the La Grande Country club in the year's opening event. He scored a 43 on his first round and 42 on the second nine.

This Curious World



AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS CENTURY, THERE WERE MANY SCIENTISTS WHO PREDICTED THAT THE HUMAN BODY COULD NOT WITHSTAND A SPEED OF MORE THAN 100 MILES PER HOUR.

Twisting Odds

WHEN A CLOUD COMES OVER THE SUN, IT IS UNDER THE SUN. BY REV. A. H. BELLEMAN, Director, North Dakota.

THE WORD 'HEATHEN' ONCE REFERRED TO COUNTRY FOLK!

NEXT: Our distant hemispherical neighbors.