

# EDITORIAL PAGE

## La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 9, 1945

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It Was Never But a Feeble Flame, Anyway



### 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

No man also seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment; else the new piece that filled it up taketh away from the old, and the rent is made worse.—Mark 2:21.

### THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Thus 'tis with all; their chief and constant care is to seem everything but what they are.—Goldsmith.

### Two Budgets

You never saw seven-and-a-half billion dollars. Neither did anybody else, including Treasury Secretary Morgenthau and mint director Nellie Tayloe Ross. There isn't any such thing. Sums like that are just figments of fevered imaginations, reduced to figures in government ledgers.

When President Truman sliced seven-and-a-half billion dollars off the 1945-46 war budget, he eliminated something so impersonal and so inconceivable that it doesn't seem to have anything to do with you or us. But it does. That reduction, a drop in the bucket, means \$53.57 off the 1946 expenses of every individual in the United States—\$214.28 off the budget of every family of four.

We won't pay any less next year because of this reduction. We have been going into debt so deeply every year since 1931 that a reduction as small as seven-and-a-half billions can't begin to catch us up. We shall have to pay just

as much next year, but each one of us will be \$53.57 less in debt, a year from June 30, because the president used an axe on the war budget.

We should be grateful to the fighting men who, by beating Germany, enabled the president to cut back war estimates for the coming year. We should be grateful to the president for the promptness and firmness with which he grasped the opportunity.

It is not belittling what has been done to point out, however, that this cut was in the almost 80-billion-dollar war budget inherited by President Truman. It has no effect upon the more than 13-billion-dollar non-war budget.

It is inevitable that a great war like this should be run at a deficit. Not even this nation can pay such expenses out of current income. The war budget will come down, from now on, until Japan is defeated, at which time much of it will disappear.

The peacetime non-war budget is the one to fear. It is the one with which we must live, and try to keep on speaking terms, after our war-inflated 160-billion-dollar national income subsides to normality. The non-war or administrative budget alone calls for \$100 next year from every man, woman and child in the country.

President Truman has been in the White House too short a time and under too extraordinary circumstances for us to expect him to have done anything concrete about the administrative budget. We hope and expect that he will give attention to that as soon as he can.

It is not enough to have a security organization. We have to have the means for doing away with the conditions that make it easy for wars to start.—Clement Attlee, British deputy prime minister and San Francisco delegate.

### Funny Business



### SO THEY SAY

People on the west bank of the Rhine are more chastened than those on the east. This is due to the fact that there is much more damage on the west bank. Cities like Cologne are flattened.—OWI Director Elmer Davis.

These child-soldiers gone wild is certainly one of the most dreadful things the history of war has seen.—Stockholm newspaper, on Berlin battle.

Our view is that one thing that led to the present war was the great depression. So we hope the nations will get together so that never again will we see food destroyed in one country while people starve in another.—Clement Attlee, British Deputy Prime Minister and San Francisco delegate.

Why do they call it blue? It's no bluer than the Hudson!—Pet. Philip Perumutter, 31 Brooklyn, N. Y., on the Danube.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—By the thread of one affected nations. Prime ministers and potentates, once close to Franklin Roosevelt, now must learn how to get along with an unknown gentleman in the White House. Certain army-navy officials, who always knew how Roosevelt would react on this and that, now must do business with a man they once criticized.

To illustrate how the pendulum of fate has swung, here are some of those who will miss Franklin Roosevelt most:

**WINSTON CHURCHILL**—was able to call the late president on the telephone at any time night or day. Their relationship was more intimate than with most members of their own cabinets. When Churchill couldn't get Roosevelt, he talked to Harry Hopkins. Their friendship was equally close. Hopkins and Churchill used to stay up late at night sipping brandy long after FDR had gone to bed, and it was those late-hour talks that sometimes worried U.S. army-navy men. For vital policy sometimes was moulded after midnight.

Churchill had planned to hold national elections, probably in June, and Roosevelt's friendship would have been one of his great campaign assets. That asset is now out the window. Instead he must do business with a man he doesn't know and who chairmanned a committee whose members were quite critical of certain British lend-lease and international air policies abroad.

**MAYOR FIORELLO LA GUARDIA**—Now will not run for a fourth term. The fiery mayor of New York could have been elected again only with Roosevelt's support, and now he will have Dem-Boss Bob Hannegan's vigorous opposition. Hannegan plans to run Brig. Gen. Bill O'Dwyer, famous Brooklyn prosecutor, on the democratic ticket for mayor. O'Dwyer will win.

**ADMIRAL ERNEST KING**—The commander of the fleet and chief of naval operations really ran the navy under Roosevelt, and he ran it with a high hand. He ignored the late Secretary Frank Knox whenever he felt like it, knowing he would get a sympathetic ear at the White House. He even overruled Knox on such a trivial matter as a gray-blue summer uniform for the navy, though Knox had decided it would cut too heavily into the consumption of textiles.

Knox's successor, Secretary of the Navy Forrestal has played in with King. He had to. If King didn't agree with him, the admiral came out bluntly in press conference and said so.

But now there is a new man in the White House who wrote a caustic report bitterly critical of the way the admirals slowed up the war by failure to build adequate land-

ing boats. The new president also did not hesitate to throw his hooks into the navy whenever the brass hats got inefficient, especially on their inexcusable procrastination in building destroyer-escort vessels. So fellow-admirals are watching to see just where King now sits.

**GENERAL B. B. SOMERVELL**—No army officer clashed with the Truman committee more frequently and more head-on than the tough-talking chief supply officer of the army. Somervell differed with Truman on all sorts of things, and the Truman committee reports are studded with criticism of the army's supply job.

Truman is not a man to nurse personal grudges and won't demote or transfer Somervell. General Marshall always maintained that despite mistakes he was the best man they had. But Somervell will never become chief of staff, or rise any higher in the army.

**BERNARD BARUCH**—The man who talks with presidents, no longer has the key to the White House. During the bitter battles between the war production board civilian group and General Somervell's military clique, Baruch always backed up Somervell. In fact, he was one of Somervell's most vigorous supporters.

Truman, on the other hand, fought in the WPB civilian corner. Also Bernie was for Byrnes not Truman at the Chicago convention. So he may not be such a close friend to presidents any more.

**GENERAL "WILD BILL" DONOVAN**—of the office of strategic services, sometimes called the "Cloak and Dagger Club" or "Oh so Social," will miss Roosevelt terribly. Donovan ran the giant espionage outfit which tried to find out what was going on behind enemy lines, and he had accumulated the most bizarre assortment of female spies, social register bluebloods and anti-Roosevelt haters ever seen in Washington. As an old personal friend, Roosevelt gave him free rein, including grandiose plans for a postwar espionage service. Truman does not like peace time espionage and will not be so lenient.

**HARRY HOPKINS**—Of all those around Roosevelt, Harry Hopkins will miss him most. Theirs was a very close personal relationship. Although Harry has been criticized vitriolically, sometimes even by other presidential intimates, FDR never wavered in his devotion. In a way, Harry took the place of Roosevelt's elder son, Jimmie, whom he once hoped would be his secretary. So Harry will miss his old friend terribly.

The critics will say that Hopkins will miss him because of the glamour, the power and the prestige. But actually there was a love and devotion between the two men which few realized and even fewer understood.

### Side Glances



### McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

#### A SINGLETON CALLS FOR ENTRY SIGNAL

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

The suit directing play is a most modern and effective means of defense, but once again let me warn you: while it can be a very valuable asset to your game, if you attempt to use it on every

If West did not have the ace of hearts or the ace of spades, he would simply have played his four of clubs.

If he had put the three of clubs on the queen, he would be saying to partner, "The best chance of getting me in will be by leading a heart."

Now in this hand, when East won the diamond trick with the ace, he could safely lead a spade and now get a club ruff, defeating the contract.

### IN FORMER YEARS

**30 Years Ago**—N. K. West returned from Salem where he attended a meeting of the state fair board.

H. H. Weatherspoon of Elgin spent Sunday in La Grande on business. He says the apple crop was in good shape.

Elmer Hanson, 801 K avenue, couldn't find his trousers when he awoke. They were found later in the yard with money, trinkets and a plug of tobacco missing.

**15 Years Ago**—Although Portland's population as of April 2, 1930 had not been announced, most of the other larger cities in Oregon, except The Dalles and Salem had been enumerated and the figures sent to Washington, D. C. La Grande's figure was 8,043, and on the basis of that population, this city now stands as the eighth largest city in Oregon, and the largest in eastern Oregon. Portland's figure was not expected to top 300,000.

Corwyn Beery, Dan Sullivan, Fred Nowland, Knapp and William Torrence, high school athletes, left to participate in the state track meet at Corvallis.

**10 Years Ago**—The swim week at the Cove pool, sponsored by the Porpoise club of La Grande, was proving the largest ever staged here, with a total of 72 enrolled.

With more than 300 in attendance, representatives of Union, Milton-Freewater, The Dalles, Hermiston, Elgin, Imbler, Walla, Enterprise and Baker points of the American Legion meeting held a district meeting here.

**Q**—How many babies born in the U. S. have at least one foreign-born parent?  
**A**—One in 10. A quarter-century ago, more than half had at least one foreign-born parent.

**Q**—What weight projectile does a 18-inch naval rifle fire?  
**A**—One ton. The shell travels half a mile and can be fired 20 miles.

**Q**—What does COMINCH mean in navy code?  
**A**—Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet (Adm. Ernest J. King).

### Questions & Answers

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## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

That business of President Truman's putting in a long distance call to Miss Tillie, his high school English teacher, to tell her that he had made another of her former students his press secretary, ought to give school teachers all over the country a lift.

Not just because the president of the United States remembered a teacher with enough affection to want to let her in on a piece of news he knew would interest her. But because it suggests a game that teachers can play to relieve the monotony of teaching the same subject over and over, year after year.

The game is, of course, laying private bets on which students are likely to become important citizens in another thirty or forty

years; which ones will remember old school friends when they do reach positions of importance; and which ones will remember their teachers with affection.

A game like that ought to make school teaching infinitely more fun. In a democracy we realize that any mother's son has a chance to become president. But a high school or grade school teacher—with all the hundreds of students she helps to educate—has an even better chance of having one of "her boys" become famous.

And the ones who make the grade aren't always the ones a teacher would expect to go far. That is what ought to make the game more exciting than betting on a horse race.

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

**SAN FRANCISCO**—To Ahmet Emin Yalman, press representative of the Turkish delegation to the United Nations conference, has come one of the strangest and pleasantest experiences of the whole San Francisco meeting, marking the end of another, smaller search for peace that began back in 1939. Or maybe it began a couple of hundred years before that. Anyway...

In 1939 Mr. Yalman was a Turkish commissioner to the Century of Progress exposition in New York.

In June of that year there came to the Turkish embassy in Washington a delegation of Molokans from California. They wanted to migrate to Turkey and the case came to the attention of Commissioner Yalman in New York because it was in the nature of "new business."

Now the Molokans are a lovely people, a clean and humble people something like the American Quakers. The word "Molokan" means "a drinker of milk." They eat no pork. Molokans are pacifists.

Originally they came from what used to be southern Russia, though their homelands are now in Turkey on the Russian border. Over the centuries they had built up their own customs and culture in which the desire for peace was always a dominant influence.

When they grew tired of the continual warring and massacres on the Turkish-Russian border some of the younger spirits had migrated to America to find peace and here they had prospered! There is a small colony of them in San Francisco, larger communities of several thousand families in the Fresno and Los Angeles areas. They made good citizens. They pay their taxes and they never caused any trouble.

But in 1939 a group of these Molokans from the Los Angeles colony wanted to return to their homeland and they came to the Turkish embassy in Washington to see what could be done about it. Their reason for wanting

to leave America was this:

One of the prophets of the Molokans had a dream. In this dream it was revealed to him that the whole world was going to be engulfed in a horrible war. The United States as going to be involved in this war, according to the prophet, and the only country in the world that wouldn't be involved would be Turkey. So the Molokans wanted to go back where they came from to live in peace.

Well, the Turkish embassy staff and Commissioner Ahmet Emin Yalman thought this was a very nice but a little bit crazy. Nobody believed in dreams of old men who might be homesick. Besides, if there was a war, they figured Turkey would be among the first countries to be involved and the United States would be the last. Why didn't the Molokans realize that and stay where they were in peaceful America?

So the Molokans came back to California and here they have stayed. But Ahmet Emin Yalman, now an editor of a newspaper in Turkey, never forgot the strange dream of the Molokan prophet, and when Editor Yalman arrived in San Francisco for the United Nations conference, one of his first requests was to visit the Molokans.

They arranged a little meeting of the Molokan Mothers club out at the neighborhood house in San Francisco's Potrero hill district. Editor Yalman went out with six other members of the Turkish delegation, and they had a wonderful time. There were several hundred of the old people there. They all talked Turkish and they all wanted to shake hands with every one of the delegates. The younger Molokans have drifted away from the old traditions somewhat and become Americanized. But the old folks wanted to hear how things were with their relatives and forebears back on the Turkish border. They were told.

The Molokans desire to return home however, is all gone. It was just a dream. They've found peace here.

### This Curious World



**ANSWER:** Wrong, but unlike some other tribe, the men do most of the weaving.

**NEXT:** Light travels how much faster than sound?