

EDITORIAL PAGE

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Hitler's Bequest to His Beloved People — One Bed



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 he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall.—Ezekiel 8:7.

Voice of Germany

We are too close to Adolf Hitler's tempestuous career, and we lack too many essential data, to attempt any objective and final appraisal of what made the funny little paperhanger into the most hated figure in world history. One possible explanation comes to mind, as we think back over the past 15 years. And to the extent that we accept this explanation, it may help us to deal wisely with the reich so as to avert a world war III.

Let's grant that Hitler had much more intelligence or cunning than we used to suppose. By all means, we can concede his inordinate talent for demagoguery and we do proclaim the profundity of his depravity. With all these, no man could have led an unwilling people into some of the excesses into which the German followed or accompanied their Fuehrer.

This suggests that Hitler never was, in fact, the leader of Germany so much as he was the highly articulate voice for the basest instincts of a nation that was, on the whole, willing and anxious to be led into war, atrocities, racial pog-

roms, anti-religion.

In this theory Hitler could be compared to a firebrand in a mob. Every member is anxious to commit an illegal, immoral act, but for the moment they are restrained by some vestiges of superficial decency, or perhaps by vague fear of the consequences, or even by the mild inertia of habitual docility. The firebrand climbs onto a convenient tree stump, and scarifies the mob's passions until decency, caution and inertia vanish. The mob does what it wants to do.

No Hitler could have led or forced Americans, in the mass, to do what the Germans as a people have done with little protest. It does not seem probable that any Hitler could have induced the Germans to do such things if they had possessed any deep-seated tolerance, any genuine love of peace and good will.

Hitler, Himmler, Goering and Goebbels can be taken as symbols of what we know as nazism. But just as in the beginning they were the tools of ostensibly respectable Junkers and industrialists, so in the end they were the personification of the immorality of a nation that, even now, thinks the worst thing it has done is lose the war.

When we are deciding how to deal with millions of Germans too unimportant and numerous to be tried as war criminals — with millions of Germans who now claim they didn't know what was going on across the road in horror camps—let's remember that Adolf Hitler at his worst probably was only the vile voice of a very dangerous people.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

SAN FRANCISCO — Secretary of State Stettinius has received an interesting document from his undersecretary, Joe Grew, listing a variegated group of organizations trying to undermine the San Francisco conference, Bretton Woods and other steps toward international cooperation. The report was prepared by Louis M. Birkenhead of the friends of democracy, who spent two hours with Grew, giving him a bill of particulars regarding the anti-peace agitators whom he described as having all the strength of the pre-Pearl Harbor isolationists with no Pearl Harbor ahead to shock us into unity.

The people who are now screaming, "poor Poland," and "poor Rumania," the report warns, are the same ones who once insisted that Poland, Czechoslovakia and the rights of small nations were none of our business. When the Atlantic charter was first proclaimed they called it a fraud, but today they shed tears over its "demise."

Here are the chief agitators against the San Francisco conference and Bretton Woods, according to the Birkenhead report: Gerald L. K. Smith, one-time Huey Long lieutenant, leader of the America First party — just arrived in San Francisco only to be barred by most hotels.

Elizabeth Dilling, long under indictment for sedition and an active isolationist.

Ex-Senator Bob Reynolds of North Carolina, son-in-law of Mrs. Evelyn "Hope Diamond" McLean, and who once edited a weekly magazine with reputed fascist leanings.

Also Senator "Pass-the-Biscuits Pappy" O'Daniel of Texas; ex-Congressman Sam Pettengill, newspaper columnist; Charles Hudson, Court Asher, John B. Trevor of the American coalition; Walker Steele, editor of the National Republic, the Brooklyn Tablet, New York Gaelic American, San Francisco Leader, and the Meriden, Conn., Mailist.

Samples of the propaganda — Ex-Senator Reynolds: "Bretton Woods is an insane plot for world government" sponsored by "international bankers." Mrs. Lyri Van Hyning of "We, The Mothers, Mobilize for America," says of the San Francisco conference: "Your son is to be a policeman. If you want to see your boy again, then speak out now, or forever hold your peace."

The New York News: "San Francisco is as phony as a seven-dollar bill. It has no concern with establishing a peace of justice."

"Arab Glamour"

Saudi Arabia, which supplies the chief glamour for San Francisco, has sent five of

its top-drawer princes to represent the Arabs of South Arabia — all sons of Ibn Saud, the man from whom Roosevelt said he had learned more about the Jewish problem in five minutes than in weeks of correspondence.

Riding through San Francisco in limousines, and striding through hotel lobbies dressed in long-flowing burnouses, they are the chief visual attraction of the conference. The other day as the five Arab princes walked past, a near-by lady remarked: "Oh, they're so fierce, so romantic." In perfectly good English, one of the princes, scarcely turning his head, replied:

"Tsk, tsk, you should see us on horses, my dear."

"Broadway and royalty."

"Discrimination at San Francisco"

While San Francisco delegates attempted to build a framework to carry out the four freedoms of the Atlantic charter, the minions of music dictator James C. Petrillo were denying the right of one of America's foremost Negro singers to make music recordings if accompanied by a white pianist or any other white musicians.

The Negro, Huddy Ledbetter, better known as "Lead Belly" is probably the nation's most outstanding folk singer, has made hundreds of recordings for the library of congress. But in San Francisco, Petrillo's musician's local union 6 denied him the right to make recordings with three white musicians — Ellis Horne, Squire Girsbach and Paul Lingle.

Ed Moore, vice president of local 6 and Secretary Jack Haywood telephoned Petrillo in Chicago to ask whether Ledbetter could play with the three white musicians and get the word "no."

There has been a long standing rule in the San Francisco Bay area that Negro musicians cannot play in public with whites. But local 6 once before stretched this rule to discriminate against Negroes even on private recordings where the public has no idea who the musicians are, and whether they are white or black.

The other notable case was that of 64-year-old Willie "Bunk" Johnson, legendary trumpet genius supposed to have been dead but discovered working in a cotton field. He was one of the inventors of jazz in New Orleans at the turn of the century, and the teacher of Louis Armstrong. Time magazine devoted a whole music section to him, but when brought to San Francisco by the Museum of Art, Bunk Johnson was forced to return east after local 6 ruled its own interpretation of the four freedoms.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

When Eleanor Roosevelt arrived in New York after finishing the difficult, heart-rending job of breaking up housekeeping, she said only four words to reporters, "The story is over."

And so it must have seemed to her. But the story can't be over for a woman with the courage, the energy, the enthusiasm for living that made Mrs. Roosevelt as famous as her husband.

Whether you have been an admirer of Mrs. Roosevelt—or a critic—you must admit that her attitude toward life was a challenging one for the women of the country.

She didn't believe that women should take a back seat, simply because they were women, or play a subordinate role in life, simply because by doing so they might make some men feel more important.

She proved that a woman could build a new life for herself, a life full of new interests even after she had become a grand mother.

And now she has a chance to prove something else to thousands of lone and war-widowed women—that a woman can and MUST go on building a satisfactory life for herself.

There is no doubt in anyone's mind but that Mrs. Roosevelt will become an inspiring example to the lone women of the country. For she has the courage, the independence, the wide interests that will serve her well in making a new and worthwhile life for herself.

No, Mrs. Roosevelt, for you the story isn't over. It can't be — for you or any other woman left to face life alone.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO—The lid on social doings at this United Nations conference will be officially lifted come Sunday mid-night, but in spite of the ban on big parties during the month of mourning over the death of President Roosevelt, there has been a considerable amount of whoopee going on in a nice refined sort of way. The social arbiters decreed that if less than 20 people were there it wasn't a party and therefore wouldn't violate the protocols of mourning. So all over the bay area they have let the joy be confined to those limits and it has all been organized with the efficiency of military general staff planning at its best.

Never has any city strewn rose petals and welcome mats around with such profusion. Every hostess in the whole Bay area wanted to get in on the entertaining, but the FBI and the state department's protocol boys told the hospitality committees that they would be held strictly accountable for the welfare of their visiting delegate guests and would therefore have to make sure they didn't get mixed up with anything but the right people.

The more masculine forms of entertainment like deep-sea fishing, tennis, golf, yachting and other sports were taken over by the men's clubs while the good ladies of the state American Women's Voluntary Services took over the strictly social ends. As a kind of social game wardens' protective association, a committee of nine matrons, headed by Mrs. Jerd Sullivan, was found to sieve the hostesses and steer the delegates through the rip tides of Bay area high society.

A master file was set up in Barracks 7, a temporary structure down in the civic center area where conference sessions are held. There a form was made out for every ambitious hostess. Name, Town house or country house, Daughters if any and age of each. Swimming pool, horses or other social assets. Kind of guests preferred. Foreign languages spoken by family. Maximum guest capacity and when and how often willing to entertain. To simplify operations,

types of entertaining were limited to five; luncheons, teas, cocktails, dinners and week-ends.

When the committee got through making the master file, they found they had 400 good bets. So, if San Francisco never had a 400 before, it has one now. They are not all social register and the native ten yardstick was not used, either. (You know, the one about: "The miners came in '49; the gals in '51. And when they got together they produced the Native Son.") Just good families fit for the delegates to know socially.

To make the necessary introductions, the state department assigned a protocol smoothie to each delegation to act as liaison officer between the guests and Mrs. Sullivan's committee. Two women from this committee were assigned to each of the principal hotels where delegates were quartered — Fairmont, Mark Hopkins, St. Francis and Sir Francis Drake—to do the actual booking and dating.

These ladies were all born and finished and came out here, and have lived here all their lives. With the help of the liaison officers they were therefore in good position to know who's who in the Bay area and could protect the delegates from hostesses known to have a two round limit, or vice versa in case any of the guests might develop unsuspected wolfish proclivities. The whole thing, you see, had to be conducted on a high moral and ethical plane.

When a party gets cleared through the master file in Barracks F without conflict—Mrs. X having sufficient gasoline and red points or fish to entertain four South Africans, three Frenchmen and couple of Bolivians who have expressed desire to be feted over the weekend—has invitations issued on cards bearing the crest of the hospitality committee so the guests will know they're not being asked to some clip joint. The hostess then calls up the state department protocol officer who works out the seating arrangement, and there you have a party which doesn't break mourning rules. But wait till the flags go full mast again.

Side Glances



"I don't like to spank him for smoking my pipe—the cigars were there too, and he did show his morality by not touching them!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

TIMELY RUFF BEATS "CINCH" 5 HEARTS

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

In today's hand, North and South could have defeated the four spade contract of East and West by one trick.

But South was correct in as-

♠ 2	♥ 9876	♦ 10765	♣ 1098
♠ J1076	♥ A4	♦ 3	♣ KQ765
♠ 9876	♥ 532	♦ 8765	♣ A43
♠ A3	♥ KQJ10	♦ A987	♣ 2
♠ 2	♥ 2	♦ 2	♣ 2

Bridge—N-S vul.

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	1 ♥	2 ♠	2 ♥
3 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	3 ♥
4 ♠	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening—♦ 3.			

On the opening lead, North played the five spot from dummy and East refused to go in with the king or even the eight spot. He put on the deuce. When the five of diamonds held the trick, the six of hearts was led from dummy and again East played a small card, the deuce of hearts.

West won this trick with the ace and now there was not much doubt in his mind but what his partner was asking him to shift to a club. He did not make the mistake of leading the king of clubs; however, he did protect the hand by leading the queen of clubs.

East overtook this trick with the ace and returned a diamond, giving his partner a ruff and setting the contract.

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago

Miss Anna Alexander, deputy county clerk, returned from a trip to California. At Los Angeles she joined Miss Edith Anderson, formerly of La Grande, and they attended the San Diego and San Francisco fairs.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Church returned from Portland where they spent the winter.

L. B. Payne, real estate man of Enterprise, was here on business. Harry Schaeffer is here from Wallowa and is at the Savoy.

15 Years Ago

Major Ralph R. Huron, postmaster, was promoted to the grade of lieutenant colonel in the 180th infantry. He served in the Spanish American and the World war and for a long period in the national guard.

Miss Iris Hughes was elected president of the Associated girl students at the high school.

The Imbler high school basketball team won the championship of Union county at Elgin, defeating the Elgin high school 23 to 1.

10 Years Ago

Bob Dunn was elected president of the La Grande high school student body. Vice president was Bob Hogenson, secretary-treasurer, Lois Robertson, and song queen, Winnifred Scott. Albert Hughes was chosen yell leader.

This Curious World

The PHILIPPINES
HAVE NO LARGE NATIVE ANIMALS, SINCE THEY HAVE NEVER BEEN A PART OF THE ASIATIC MAINLAND, AS HAVE SUMATRA, BORNEO AND JAVA, WHICH BECAME POPULATED WITH LARGE MAINLAND MAMMALS BEFORE BEING ISOLATED AS ISLANDS.

The AMERICAN IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER
IS ON THE VERY VERGE OF EXTINCTION. ONLY ABOUT TWO HUNDRED REMAIN AND ARE BELIEVED TO EXIST TODAY.

Whiz Korner
WHAT IS A CARROT, A CARROT, AND A CARET?

ANSWER: A carrot, a vegetable; caret, a unit of weight for precious stones; caret, a mark used by writers and proof readers.

NEXT: Garlic is strong medicine.

Funny Business



"My neighbor's chickens get kind of nosy!"

SO THEY SAY

We have added enormously to our productive capacity and, unlike many of our allies, our factories have escaped entirely the destruction of war. But in peacetime we cannot reach this high level of production unless we find markets abroad as well as at home for our investment and our goods and services.

—Secretary of State Stettinius.

We must not forget that the Germans already have their plans laid for the next war, and that their next move will be an underground campaign to influence American sentiment through activities in the United States and South America.

—Study made by seven psychiatric organizations at Columbia U.

Every problem which faced us during the depression will again be on our doorstep. Today we are ignoring these problems.

—Thurman Arnold, associate justice, U. S. court of appeals, District of Columbia.