

### The Knock-Out War Loan



#### 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 when ye did eat, and when ye did drink, did not ye eat for yourselves, and drink for yourselves?—Zechariah 7:6.

#### THOUGHT FOR TODAY

No, when the fight begins within himself, A man's worth something.

—Robert Browning

#### Congressional Junkets

President Truman is reported to have given the green light on the congressional junkets to Europe and while the "join the congress and see the world" excursions add another item to the taxpayers' war bill, we would say that they are a good investment nevertheless.

The job of congress today goes far beyond taking care of constituents' wants and doing a little reciprocal log-rolling. Regional thinking and regional zeal are still an important part of a congressman's duties, but that shouldn't monopolize his time and attention, as they usually can do.

So we think it would be highly beneficial if every congressman could see just what war has done, could meet the survivors of nazi prison camps, examine the war's awful aftermath of hunger and homelessness, get reports on Europe's complex politics from European statesmen, and check up on the overseas operation of such government agencies as OWI.

#### Funny Business



"My husband—he's going prospecting for red powder!"

#### Spain's 'Bill of Rights'

Out of the wreckage of Europe's totalitarianism Dictator Franco of Spain has emerged to give his country, in a gesture of democratic generosity, a "bill of rights." The bill provides for freedom of speech, of assembly, and of religious belief. Wonderful, isn't it? But—

The "freedom of speech" permits no criticism of the fundamental principles of the Falangist State—whatever they are.

The "freedom of assembly" is only for "lawful purposes"—whatever that means.

The "freedom of religious belief" bars all religious ceremonies except Catholic.

Many of the people under Franco's rule led Europe's first fight against Fascism. It is amazing now that Franco should think that he could content these people, who are still militantly eager for freedom, simply by giving them a larger barred cell to move around in.

But then, as has been suggested before, perhaps the great weakness of most dictators is that they don't really understand the people.

#### Scoring Play

In the fabulous borough of Brooklyn, New York, a girl office worker tossed a bag containing \$1050 to a feminine colleague. The second girl missed the toss and the bag flew out the window. A passing bobby-soxer neatly intercepted the lateral, scooped the bag off the sidewalk and streaked for the goal line. Not a tackler laid a hand on her.

When last we heard the police were still seeking her, so we can't end the story properly. But if the law lets her go she's a cinch to get a scholarship offer from some freshwater college. In this time of scarce talents, you don't run into a pass receiver like that every day.

#### SO THEY SAY

Our real mission is to destroy Japan's industrial production. Aircraft plants are highest on the list because Japanese air power is doing us more harm now than any other weapon.

—Lt. Gen. Barney M. Giles, air forces commander in the Pacific.

I never saw such a time when golfers were in such demand as they are now.

—Evel Corcoran, tournament manager, Professional Golfers association.

To use the phrase that Al Smith liked to use in his day, "I can run on a laundry ticket and beat these political bums any time."

—Mayor La Guardia of New York City, in announcing refusal of 4th term candidacy.

Whatever one's views, there can be no justifiable criticism of the (supreme) court.

—Prof. Parke Shartel, University of Michigan.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Officials are keeping very mum about it, but the entire question of using German prison labor to rebuild Russia and France has been thrown into a controversy by a secret opinion rendered by Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson, who has taken over U. S. prosecution of war criminals.

Justice Jackson wrote his opinion to U. S. reparations chief Ed Pauley, stating that in his opinion compulsory German labor should not be used to rebuild France and Russia unless they have been convicted of war crimes.

"It is not my business what is to be done with reparations," Jackson wrote, "but this would largely destroy the moral position of America in this war. . . . Compulsory labor," he continued, "should be required only for convicted war criminals."

Justice Jackson went on to point out that German labor "drifting out of Russian concentration camps would tell tales of horror which, even if exaggerated, would arouse sharp condemnation in the United States." He urged, therefore, that German labor not be used for reparations until they had been convicted of war crimes. He indicated that members of the gestapo and the SS elite guard undoubtedly were war criminals as a class, but that every member of the nazi party might not be classified as a war criminal.

#### Ed Pauley Hesitates

Following Justice Jackson's bombshell, a hurried meeting was called in Secretary Morgenthau's office, attended by Pauley, Assistant Secretary of State Will Clayton, the army, navy, FEA, and other interested government agencies. Secretary Morgenthau vigorously protested this new development. It was pointed out by some that the use of German prisoner labor had been agreed to at Yalta by President Roosevelt himself and, therefore, could not be changed.

"If we have to wait for the conviction of all these war criminals before we can get German labor," suggested Pauley, "we may have to wait a year. Meanwhile, there may not be enough Germans to repair the damage in France and Russia."

Pauley also made the point that he had been charged by the president with the handling of reparations and, therefore, would have to make the final decision himself after his arrival in Europe. After further discussion, however, Pauley agreed to accept Justice Jackson's opinion in principle, namely, that only convicted war criminals could be used as prisoner labor. This leaves the whole question pretty much up in the air.

However, it has been hinted that Justice Jackson will endeavor to indict groups of Germans as a class. In other words, he may try the gestapo as a group, not individually, and decide that every member of the ges-

tapo automatically is a war criminal. This probably will be done with Hitler's SS elite corps. Whether a blanket indictment will also be lodged against the nazi party remains to be seen.

#### Training Films Destroyed

The army doesn't want it known, but it has a new way of handling one type of surplus property. In the case of training and orientation film, it burns old prints. According to a survey made by movie experts, old films last summer were being burned at the rate of 225 tons weekly at Astoria, N. Y.

Meanwhile other government agencies, schools and universities are anxious to buy these outmoded prints from the army. In fact, the U. S. office of transportation had to spend \$60,000 of the taxpayers' money to make ten new reels of its own when the army refused to sell it the army's excellent series of twenty reels for the training of auto mechanics.

Senator Francis Myers of Pennsylvania, Democrat, has just written Maj. Gen. Harry Ingles, chief of the signal corps, demanding an explanation.

The making of training films and orientation films by the army has been a major operation. Thousands of subjects have been turned out at a tremendous outlay, and production schedules have been more crowded than those of any Hollywood studio.

#### No Secrets Wanted

The films have proved remarkable training aids, with officers claiming that they cut at least in half the length of time needed to teach men such things as first aid, signaling, and ju-jitsu. Some of the films dealt with such technical subjects as secret new weapons, so naturally could not be given to the public, but many others dealt with training mechanics, storekeepers, clerks and woodworkers.

But the army pictorial service seems determined that these films shall not pass from their hands.

Organizations asking to purchase films dealing with these subjects have been told either that there are no surplus prints, or that clearance for general use is not obtainable. Some films, it is true, contain copyrighted music or feature well-known stars. But men in the trade estimate that 90 per cent of the films which would be useful to civilians would require no special clearance, and that clearance could easily be obtained for the other 10 per cent. They recall that Col. Frank Capra's famous "Prelude to War" and "Battle of Russia" were given universal clearance, yet the army refuses to sell prints of these films to 16-millimeter distributors.

Meanwhile Hermon Woder and Morris Caplan, civilian movie experts assigned by the war department to do a special survey, have submitted a report that at Astoria, N. Y., last summer the army burnt an average of 12,500,000 feet of film per week.

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

The Illinois woman who whipped out a gun to force a butcher to hand over a beef roast he said was already sold, may just have been fed up with all the under-the-counter selling that is going on these days.

Certainly a lot of dealers in meat, cigars, sheer stockings, and dozens of other scarce articles are making enemies by not following a first come, first serve policy.

All the dealer sees when he takes care of a pet customer, by holding out a scarce item for him and turning away earlier birds, is the gratitude of the old customer.

He isn't aware that for every old customer who boasts, "I can always get cigars at Joe's place," he has irked a good number of others who are always turned down simply because they aren't an old customer or a friend of the clerk who waits on them.

And the guy who gets turned down—when he knows pet customers are getting what they ask for—is likely to hurt a business firm more than pet customers help it.

Of course, the dealer probably thinks nobody sees or hears about the cigars he puts in a sack before sliding them over the counter. But the news gets around. And in no time at all you hear people saying, "I used to trade at Joe's—but no more. I don't like being turned down when I know the things that are really hard to get are saved for pet customers."

Time will certainly prove that the far-sighted merchants are the ones who put what they have to sell out in plain sight and let it go to anyone who walks in with the money to pay for it.

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO—Hanging inconspicuously and unnoticed in the lobby of the Fairmont hotel, which is headquarters for the U. S. delegation to the San Francisco conference, is a facsimile of the United Nations declaration—parent and forerunner of the world charter now being drafted to prevent future wars and maintain the peace.

This United Nations declaration is an important document in many respects.

It is less than 200 words long, yet in this brief statement are embodied all the principles on which the war has been fought—full military alliance of all the United Nations, no separate peace, adherence to the Atlantic charter, the preservation of liberty, independence, religious freedom, human rights and justice throughout the world.

signed originally in Washington by the representatives of 26 governments at war against Germany. That was January 1, 1942. Since that time it has been signed by the representatives of 1 other government, bringing the total number of signatories to 47.

The difference between this number and the 49 nations represented at the San Francisco conference is caused by the absence of Poland and the presence of three other nations. The first two of these three have but recently been given independent nation status by the soviet union, one of the original signers of the declaration, so their absence of their signature is no great cause for concern or the making of an international incident.

Absence of the signature of a representative of the Argentine government may be something else again. One of the conditions of acceptance of the Argentine as one

## This Curious World



ANSWER: Florida has about twice as much average rainfall as California.

NEXT: What caused the moon's craters?

## McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

#### SQUEEZE NETS SIX ON BID OF THREE

(This is one of a series of hands from the recent world's championship masters' individual tournament.)

For the first time in the history of the masters' individual, no New York City player finished among the first five. Fourth place this year went to E. N. Marcus of Boston, Mass., while fifth place went to Dr. William S. H. Gains of Schenectady, N. Y.

It was rather a coincidence that both of these players made six odd on this hand. In both cases

♠ J 10 9 4	♥ 8 6	♦ 10 5 3	♣ K 7 2
♠ A K	♥ A K 10 3	♦ A Q 7 6 2	♣ J 9
♠ Q 8 7 5 2	♥ 9 5 2	♦ J 9	♣ A Q 8
N W E S Dealer			
♠ 6 3	♥ Q 7 4	♦ K 8 4	♣ 10 6 5 4 3
Duplicate—Both vul.			
South	West	North	East
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 N.T.
Pass	3 N.T.	Pass	Pass
Opening—♠ 24			

hearts and clubs. South was in the same predicament. He had to try to protect hearts and clubs.

As a result, both Mr. Marcus and Dr. Hutchins made six odd.

## IN FORMER YEARS

#### 30 Years Ago

Thirty-five seniors were graduated from La Grande high school this spring. They are Mina Ash, Clarence Becker, Blanche Black, Elizabeth Bond, Nell Bradley, Elva Conklin, Katie Council, Louise Council, Carol Currey, Lenore H-zey, Gilbert Hunter, Nita Hunter, Anetta Johnson, Olga Johnson, Charlotte Jones, Arleigh Kammerer, Marjorie Kuehenthal, Melvin Larson, Helen McDonald, Lucile Mulkey, Leona Newlin, Harold Newton, Edna Perryman, Lucille Rees, Earl Reynolds, Kathryn Riddle, Jay Shaw, Marjorie Snook, Nellie Storey, Ruth Taylor, Edith Weaver, Edith Welch, Myrton Westring, Ellis Williamson, Walter Young.

#### 15 Years Ago

The Neighborhood club, under the direction of Mrs. A. L. Richardson, presented a musicale at the high school. Participating were the women's Triad choir, assisted by E. D. Towler, basso, Sally Siegrist and Gladys Roberts. Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Lynn right were accompanists.

William H. Finn of Los Angeles was in La Grande on business. His father was C. H. Finn, an attorney who practiced for many years in La Grande and who was one of the first mayors of this city.

#### 10 Years Ago

Francis Schmidt of Pendleton was chosen president of the associated students of the Eastern Oregon Normal school for 1935-36. Other officers elected were: Mary Richeson, Imbler, secretary; Farrell Lindley, North Powder, and Blanche Billings of Imbler, senior council members.

Mrs. J. A. Gaskill of Imbler returned from Portland where she spent the winter with her daughter, Mrs. La Nita Pierson. Mrs. Anette Smith left for Salem to spend several weeks visiting her sister, Mrs. Amy Ellis.