

EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

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Down Through the Third Reich's Thousand Years



EVENING OBSERVER'S PROGRESS PROGRAM

IRRIGATION—Complete the Grande Ronde Valley irrigation project.
LA GRANDE — A city of 10,000 — Extend the city limits.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Such being the happiness of the times, that you may think as you wish, and speak as you think.—Tacitus.

Silly, but Sinister

It is the Germans' silliness, not their arrogance and cruelty, that makes them dangerous, says Richard K. Law, British minister of state. "Their extreme quality of silliness which made them accept as leaders the sweepings of the slums and jails and asylums of Europe."

How silly the Germans were is shown by a glance back at their late leaders:

Adolf Hitler — a bum and a sleeper in flop houses; too devoid of talent to satisfy his ambition to be a painter, too lazy or uncoordinated to make a decent living through his meager abilities; a crackpot nobody until the war made him feel important; a sufferer from war-induced hysterical neurosis; a flabby, undistinguished, uneducated, unbalanced, rhabdole-rouser.

Paul Joseph Goebbels — ridiculous little ne'er-do-well with a head crammed full of book learning; like Hitler, a talentless, thwarted, would-be artist who wrote as badly as his fuhrer painted.

Heinrich Himmler — weak of eye, chin and will; jobless, colorless and purposeless until he caught up with the nazis, where his frustrations found relief in brutalities unprecedented in modern history.

Hermann Goering — vain, strutting,

sponging, plundering, porcine, former dope addict.

Karl Doenitz — once an inmate of an English insane asylum.

A ridiculous lot certainly. But the Germans aren't the only people who ever took up with a pack of repulsive nonentities. Our own history's shameful chapter of the Ku Klux Klan was closed only 20 years ago. We can't forget the Klan's broad political power, or the country's tardiness in coming to its senses.

But this country did come to its senses. The Germans didn't. Their silliness might be explained as quantitative rather than qualitative. Yet there were many of Hitler's early supporters who saw how ridiculous he and his gang really were, and continued to support him because he served their various sinister purposes.

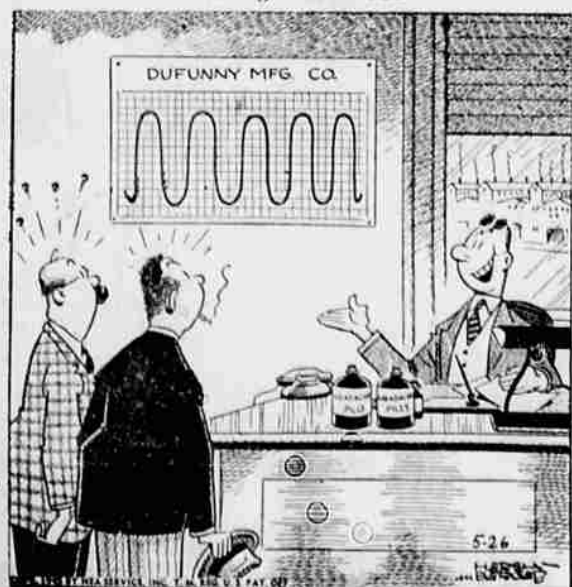
No, mobs have followed unworthy leaders in every land. But the Germans' arrogance and cruelty — those, we insist, are unique and perpetually menacing.

Belated Conviction

One need not accept all claims of the more extreme exponents of air power to feel that Billy Mitchell's post-humous promotion to the rank of major general, and the award to him of the congressional medal, were not at all impetuous and premature. Any informed German or Jap would say that Mitchell's faith in the efficiency of aerial bombing has been justified.

These honors to the pioneer of military aviation may mean that belated conviction has been forced upon that officer, now high in authority, who witnessed the first test sinking of a battleship by bombs and then told reporters: "Remember, what you just saw you didn't see. It didn't happen. It couldn't happen."

Funny Business



"It's to accustom ourselves to the ups and downs of the postwar period!"

SO THEY SAY

A wholesome respect for the police uniform would be developed if we had officers to walk into every neighborhood and cultivate friendship of youth.
—Frank J. O'Malley, Grand Rapids, Mich., police chief.

I believe it fair to the fuhrer to say his operational conception was that of a genius. But sometimes the ideas of a genius are misunderstood.
—Field Marshal Albert Kesselring.

Boy, oh boy! If I'd played postoffice every day until I got into the army I wouldn't have been kissed as many times as I've been kissed today.
—Yank G. I. in Moscow on V-E day.

If, therefore, the world wishes to regain peace, it is necessary that falsehood and rancor should vanish and in their stead sovereign truth and charity should reign.
—Pope Pius XII.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — Rural hospitals and health centers can look for a major share of the hundreds of millions of dollars of medical equipment to be released by the army and the navy. A policy has finally been worked out at the surplus property board to assure release of this material for public health use, first in areas that have no existing facilities, second in areas which have insufficient facilities. So great is the need of rural and small-town hospitals and clinics that there will be little equipment left for replacement.

This policy was achieved only after a long and bitter dispute between the surplus property board and Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association. Fishbein, in whose journal advertise the largest makers of medical equipment, had urged that this vast volume of surplus material not be released at once.

Instead, he wanted it stored and released gradually in small quantities in order not to upset the market for manufacturers of medical goods. In addition, Fishbein insisted that huge quantities of certain supplies, such as bandages, could not be used because they differed somewhat from accepted standard sizes.

However, in a lengthy session at the office of U. S. Surgeon General Thomas Parran, Dr. Fishbein finally was won over and even agreed to serve on the overall board which will recommend on the disposal of medical supplies.

Federal officials are worried lest the state boards become a weak link in the setup. They fear that, in areas of greatest need, state groups will not be anxious to aid in the equipping of Negro clinics and hospitals. Therefore, an effort will be made to work out rigid requirements in Washington. No building program is yet arranged to go along with the disposal of medical supplies, though every effort will be made to convert army buildings into hospitals and clinics.

Life on Guam
One thing which burns up enlisted men and front line Pacific battle observers is the fancy quarters for officers on Guam while

wounded men, fresh from the battle zone, are shovled around on dirt floors a few hundred yards away.

At Guam, all officers above the rank of lieutenant commander have a private room each. All junior officers are two to a room with hot and cold running water, electric lights, box-spring mattresses, and other luxuries which no one begrudges them far from home.

However, the wounded just arrived from Iwo Jima and Okinawa are stretched out in sweltering tents on unpaved ground. Nearby, public relations officers, logistics officers, signal corps men, and other junior brass hats live in barracks on neatly paved streets, complete with curbs and gardens. Several hundred Seabees manure the gardens and keep the officers' lawns spic and span.

Meanwhile one headache of Maj. Gen. Curtis Le May, commander of the B-29s, was to get enough Seabees assigned to cutting down the jungle and lengthening landing strips in the Marianas to send more Superforts over Japan.

Capital Chaff

Members of the federal communications commission this week-end will leave on a train trip for on-the-spot observation of train radio. . . . Several senators are pushing former trust-buster Judge Thurman Arnold to become head of the surplus property board.

President Truman—who has told intimates he is worried about possible scandals in the disposal of about 70 billions in surplus property—is listening with interest. . . . Present surplus chairman, ex-Senator Guy Gillette of Iowa, has declared himself surplus. Gillette's ambition has been to die a senator.

Russians are suspicious of the way officials of the office of strategic services are concentrating upon teaching their men to speak Russian. OSS has already worked out details of what to bomb in a war on Russia.

The big four are watching carefully the revolt in Sinkiang China. Potentially this is much more dangerous than the Polish question. Russia may recognize one side and we the other.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

A soldier on Okinawa, after many attempts which resulted in various kinds of failures, has at last perfected the recipe for a blast-proof cake. It won't fall during baking even when the ground is trembling beneath it from the firing of big guns.

That's fine, if the inventive genius doesn't go on from there to take ALL of the chances and luck out of the art of cooking. For the satisfaction that women get from turning out a perfect soufflé or an angel-food that is as light as a feather is the element of failure that enters in.

No perfect soufflé or feather-light cake served to guests brings complete satisfaction to a hostess unless at least one woman guest admits, "I don't see how you do it. Mine never turns out like this."

So if there is anything that will take the thrill out of cooking for women it would be making all recipes fool-proof, so that a

bride could turn out as perfect pastry as a woman who has learned to be an expert cook only after years of practice.

If you doubt this, notice the apologetic air of the hostess who admits the baked beans her guests are raving over were dumped out of a can and doctored up in a few minutes — instead of being the home-baked kind that take a day's fussing and watching over.

Women like to do their cooking the hard way — and they like the gamble they take when they tackle a dish that just might not come out right. "I didn't know HOW it would turn out when I started," they tell each other triumphantly.

Take that chance of failure out of cooking and it becomes a science instead of an art. And women prefer to have cooking an art that gives them a chance to self-expression.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO—All the while this big shot United Nations conference has been going on in the veterans building and opera house in San Francisco's civic center, a little man's conference has been going on unnoticed, just one block away in the public health building.

This small time conference operates as a kind of show to the main tent attractions. It isn't open to the press or the public generally, but for strictly home town interest this extra added act is a lot more newsworthy because it takes care of some 230 representatives from 147 different U. S. organizations which weren't invited to send official "consultants" to the American delegates at San Francisco, but came anyway.

When the state department first announced that 42 selected labor, business, farm, church, women's, war vets and peace organizations would be allowed to send one official consultant and two advisors each to the United Nations conference, it was only natural that every lodge and society not on the clue chip list would hit the ceiling and in proper "we're-just-as-good-as-they-are" spirit demand to be let in. To keep these outside clubs happy and still keep them out of the conference hall, the state department set up a branch of its office of public liaison, shoved it over in the third floor of the public health building where there is a small auditorium, and hoped for the best. A nice young career man from Washington was put in charge, and if he hasn't had more fun and more headaches than anybody in San Francisco, his name isn't Chester S. Williams, which it is.

Included in Williams' group are representatives from such outfits as these: Camp Fire girls, Sons and Daughters of African Descent, Women's league for peace and freedom, B. P. O. Elks of the world, B'nai B'rith, Women's division of the Democratic party, National Baptist convention, inc., and National Baptist convention (up-line), National Women's party, YM and YWCA, the Society of Friends, WCTU, DAR, Toastmasters, international and international toastmasters club, National council of state garden clubs, American war vets, Mothers of World War Two, Catholic war veterans, three other competing veterans' associations, Ukrainian congress, Synagogue council, National retail druggists assn., Mizrahi, Negro actors guild, Soroptimists, Aheps, Ag-

das Israel, Gyro international and—no kidding—Smithsonian institution.

This isn't all, but it gives an idea. Just picture them if you can, alive and kicking, all in one hall not a part of the Smithsonian institution.

First thing they all wanted, of course, was credentials. They were given what have become known as Gray Cards, being that color. They are merely numbered identification cards providing space for name — and organization—. They don't entitle the holders to anything much beyond the right to pick up mimeographed handouts and conference documents which can be mailed back home, and they don't admit anyone to anything but meetings of the public liaison group in the public health building one block away from the conference. But they make nice souvenirs and they keep the bearing customers content. That is, reasonably.

Next thing they all wanted was tickets to plenary sessions and badges. Such tickets as are available are being rationed to keep the peace, but if Uncle Sam or somebody doesn't loosen up and give with badges pretty soon, there is going to be civil war, and these people are going to go home sore, panning the conference and all its works. No button, no good.

Five days a week Williams calls his public liaisons together and arranges to have some member of the U. S. delegation come over and talk to them about how goes it at the big time conference. Sometimes a delegate will explain one thing, like world court of social and economic council, or trusteeships, or the voting plan.

Then various and sundry of the 230 individuals from 147 organizations will ask embarrassing questions like "why isn't there more provision for disarmament?" or "why do you always try to whitewash Russia?" But mostly these meetings give these little men and women of the outside looking in a chance to make speeches of their own. They're go speeches, some of them, showing the speakers have thought about this peace business long and feel about it deep down inside their souls.

Side Glances



"I found the most wonderful house for us, dear! It's a little old and run down, but the lady next door has three small children who aren't able to eat up all their meat points!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

SQUEEZE OVERCOMES A TRUMP SHORTAGE

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

Top score in today's hand from the masters' individual was made by "Skippy" Becker, one of our newest life masters, who finished twenty-first in this tournament. Mrs. Sobel, who finished twelfth, was dummy.

Before getting up and leaving the table, she happened to look in the West hand and saw four

with the ace and immediately returned the nine of spades. This left the declarer with the king of trump and the dummy with the queen. West had two trump.

The declarer cashed the king of hearts and proceeded to play clubs. You can see what happened. The declarer got down to the king of spades and the deuce of clubs and dummy was down to the queen of spades and a small heart.

Any time West would ruff, dummy would over-ruff. Thus Mr. Becker made five-odd.

♠ Q 10 6	♠ A 9		
♥ K 8 6 5 4	♥ 9 3		
♦ Q 9	♦ A K 10 7		
♣ K 10 5	♣ 6 4 3 2		
♠ 8 7 4 2	♠ N		
♥ Q J 10 2	♥ S		
♦ J 8	♦ Dealer		
♣ 8 6 4	♣ 7		
	Becker		
	♠ K J 5 3		
	♥ A 7		
	♦ 5		
	♣ A Q J 9 3 2		
	Duplicate—E-W vul.		
South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	1♥	2♠
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
	Opening—♦ J.		26

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago, May 25
Dr. H. W. Riley, a veterinarian, went out to branchline points on professional business.

Mrs. R. E. Trill and children, Ruth and Lawrence, left on a two month trip to visit relatives in Chicago and St. Paul, planning to return by way of Spokane and Walla Walla to visit friends.

Miss Naomi Williamson, graduate of the Emerson school of expression at Boston, has returned home after graduating. She went to Washington, D. C. and New York where she witnessed a naval review and also went to Chicago and Salt Lake.

15 Years Ago, May 25
Floyd Allen and LeRoy Green spent the weekend in Portland.

Charles Hunt, Fred Weber and Francis Lewis made a weekend trip to The Dalles and McMinnville.

The population of the Alice election precinct, in which there are 78 farms, showed an increase over 1920. At that time the population was 297 as compared with a 1930 count of 345.

10 Years Ago, May 25
Mrs. Howard M. Young and her mother, Mrs. C. D. Galbreath, left on an extended tour through California, including a visit to the San Diego exposition.

Carl Helm, of La Grande, a junior at Whitman college, was chosen as one of the outstanding junior men who are to serve as assistant marshals in the 76th annual commencement of the college.

Questions & Answers

Q—Under average conditions, what would be the increase in population of the United States and Russia between 1940 and 1970?

A—Scripps foundation for research in population estimates—United States, 22,000,000; Russia, 77,000,000.

Q—How do Russian soldiers drink tea?

A—They suck it through a lump of sugar held between the teeth.

This Curious World



ANSWER: In Africa, where some of the last fighting of that continent took place.

NEXT: Are women braver than men?