EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 31, 1945 — Page Four

"I'm Not Disturbing You, Am I, Sport?"

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

Resolve, and thou are free. — Longfellow.

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England's Turn at Politics

Most Americans, viewing the forthcoming British elections, probably find themselves in the frame of mind of the average Englishman during our presidential campaign last fall.

At that time many of the millions who voted for Governor Dewey were irked by what they considered British attempts to influence the election by expressing opinions on matters that didn't concern them. They resented the fact that the English looked at American campaign issues only in the light of America's foreign policy and conduct of the war, when as a matter of fact domestic post-war economy was the chief controversial issue involved.

Now most of us can understand how the English felt. Americans know Churchill mainly as Britain's wartime leader. The majority of them undoubtedly consider him a courageous, inspiring, able and eloquent leader whose virtues for outweigh his shortcomings. They don't like the idea of his strong guiding hand being removed at a time when the British Empire still has a war to finish, and when post-war Europe's political turbulence urgently requires British solidarity and strength.

But let us maintain the sane, dispassionate attitude that many Americans asked for their English neighbors last autumn. And let us also hope that the English may learn something from us and our recent experience in domestic politics.

We should try to remember that England's present political differences, like ours, are primarily of a domestic nature. Churchill's foreign policy is aimed at preserving the empire in status quo ante bellum. With this the English public seems generally to agree.

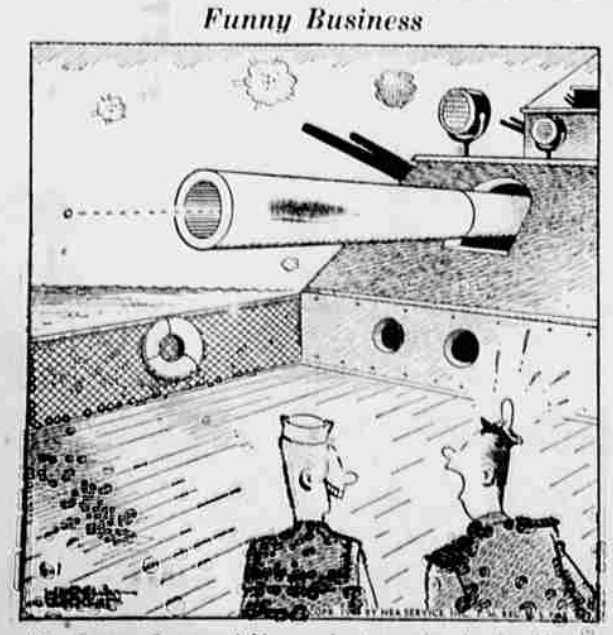
But there is clearly a large segment of the English public whose views are reflected in the labor party's program of partial nationalization of industry, tighter control of banking and monopolies, and a more socialistic, state-controlled economy such as Sir William Beveridge has proposed.

The clash between incompatable foreign and domestic policies in England has been a long time brewing. Now that it's here, American purveyors of public and private opinion might remember that the English know the pros and cons of the situation better than we, and that it is their own particular business to settle it.

As for those lessons we could teach the English, they might take note that we indulged in name-calling, even as the English have already started to do. And they might accept our assurance that, as usual, the practice was unjust, unbecoming and inflammatory, and that in the end they could not refute a fact proved repeatedly on the battlefield and in Washington and throughout the land —that no party has a monopoly on patriotism.

They might also note that we remained united in our effort to win the war through all the rancors of campaigning. England needs to do the same, perhaps even more than we did. For there is no strong force pushing for solution of Europe's current political problems such as the military momentum that rolled us to victory in Germany, even with the loss of the commander-in-chief less than a month before V-E day.

Funny Business



"It's Gunner Jones and his pea-shooter again, showing his contempt for the Jap navy!"

• SO THEY SAY

We cannot support the thesis that because German leaders acted illegally, therefore they should be treated illegally.

—President Robert M. Hutchins, University of Chicago.

Get me home to Michigan or I'll go crazy.

—Air force sergeant, among first to be returned to U. S., on landing at Bradley field, Conn.

Just as the United States has been the largest producer of the United Nations in wartime, so will it naturally be looked to as the principal source of civilian supplies for these countries.

—Judge Samuel I. Rosenman, special assistant to President Truman.

The country (France) seems to be in a state of weary, nonchalant and lazy convalescence which is susceptible to all sorts of germ.

—Leon Blum, former premier of France.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—The French-Syrian problem has been like a shower of cold water on diplomats engaged in hammering out the United Nations peace machinery—especially when it comes to the veto power.

Suddenly they have come smack up face-to-face with the fact that under the Yalta veto formula, their new peace machinery (1) could not prevent the French from shooting Arabs; (2) could not investigate the quarrel between the French and the Arabs; and (3) could not effectively tell the French to stop shooting Arabs—unless the French wanted to be prevented, wanted to be investigated, or wanted to be scolded.

Being a member of the big five, the French could exercise their right of veto and stop any real outside interference.

The absurd paradox in the whole situation is that the U. S. state department has been sending notes and oral protests to the French urging them to stop. But once the San Francisco peace machinery is set up, the state department will have little right or power to lodge these protests.

All his has been the subject of the stiffest secret debates in San Francisco. They were held behind closed doors, where the protests of little nations nearly blew the roof off.

What especially burned up the delegates was the contention that any of the big five could even veto discussions and verbal proposals for settling a dispute.

"We don't mind a veto on a shooting match, because the big five have to carry the burden on shooting," summed up Australia's External Minister Evatt. "What we do object to is a veto on a talking match."

All the small nations looked to France to carry the ball for them. But the French delegation ducked. The Syrian-Lebanon dispute was too hot and they wanted the right to veto any interference in it.

Result was that Australia's Evatt, who has turned out to be the most effective small nations operator at San Francisco, picked up the ball, gave the big five a real run for their money. Evatt, a devoted disciple of President Roosevelt, told friends he was convinced the late president would have agreed with him if alive. Evatt rallied a number of smaller nations, started things off quietly at one of the commiltee meetings at which he had asked that British under secretary of foreign affairs Alexander Cadogan be present to explain the Yalta voting formula. Lord Cadogan came.

First shot out of the box, New Zealand's able Prime Minister Fraser stood up, poured a lot of tart questions on Cadogan.

"Now," concluded Fraser, "we want specific answers to our specific questions."

Cadogan hemmed and hawed, finally gave some answers.

"Would you publish those answers so that we can all examine them closely?" Fraser asked.

Cadogan finally agreed.

Then up sprang Evatt again and in blistering language tore into the big powers' righe to veto even discussion of an incident. Lord Cadogan squirmed. Evatt was supported by The Netherlands, opposed by the Czechoslovaks.

Next day Evatt did some quiet lobbying, came to the evening session with new support. For the first time one of the Latin Americans sided with the Australian-New Zealand-Netherlands group. Stately Chilean Foreign Minister Joaquin Fernandez arose and said:

"Doctor Evatt's attitude as to the veto is magnificent. All I can do is say that Chile agrees 100 per cent. Anything I could add would only confuse the issue."

But the interpreter watered down the Chilean's words. Provoked, Fernandez refused the translation, wrote out his speech for the record in English.

Soviet Ambassador Gromyko then rose to say the smaller nations would have to trust the big five.

"If the big five can't work together," argued Gromyko, "there will be no peace anyway."

Despite this, the opposition slowly gathered steam. Canada, Belgium, Peru, Mexico, Cuba, Columbia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Greece and Norway swung behind the representatives of Australia and New Zealand. Only South Africa supported the big five along with the Czechs, Yugoslavs and the two Russian republics.

Lord Codogan followed Gromyko's words with an appeal for faith and hope. He was seconded by Senator "Long Tom" Connally of Texas.

In the end, Australia's Evatt proposed that the smaller nations have the right to submit their objections and questions to a conference subcommittee composed of four big powers and five small powers.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

A group of soldiers in Europe got together and drew up their own G. I. bill of rights—which they figured would make married life entirely different from the army where "we can't go to town without a pass, can't refuse to work, can't quit our job, have to stand in line for chow," etc.

Their bill of rights—printed in "Yank"—listed such things as "No standing in line for anything. To invite the boys over at least once a week, if so desired. Nothing to do with the kitchen. To wear the pants in the family."

If the war wife made out her own bill of rights, it would probably go something like this:

1. Never to put the car in the garage at night.
2. To have her cigarets lighted for her occasionally.
3. To go out to dinner (where there is dancing) at least once a week.
4. Never to have anything to do with the car—except to drive it.
5. To give her husband full responsibility for keeping the lawn mowed, putting on storm windows, dealing with the plumber, electrician, and collector of internal revenue.
6. Never to set a mouse trap.
7. Never to mix drinks for guests.
8. Never to lock up the house at night, or get up when a storm breaks to close windows.
9. Never to make her own train reservations.
10. Never to shove around any piece of furniture heavier than a footstool.
11. Never to go to a "mixed" party alone.
12. Never, never to wear the pants in the family.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO —California Democrats now think they have a formula which the rest of the country can follow to achieve political unity within the party.

As conceived by State Attorney General Robert W. Kenny, it consists primarily of correctly identifying what he calls the "professional" and the "crisis" politicians, giving each its proper role on the political stage and then making sure that neither one steals or spoils the act of the other.

The professional politician, obviously, is the part regular who works at politics all the time, is an office holder or party official who keeps the machine running.

Crisis politicians on the other hand are the people who step out in politics only when there is a campaign or an election going on, gets all het up over issues or personalities, puts on the drives, collects and pays the campaign expenses, gets out the vote. In the crisis politician class would be such organizations as the PAC, the Ham and Eggers, the Crusaders.

Both elements are considered necessary and when they work together they achieve political victory. But when professional and crisis politicians work at cross purposes to achieve pet isms and ends, then things go haywire and the party meets defeat.

This California system was conceived when the Democrats were out of office. When a party is out of office, says Kenny, it can experiment a little while licking its wounds and trying to figure what hit is.

American political history in every state of the union has shown that professional politicians get defeated when they have been too long in office, when they become complacent, then get fat and corrupt. If, however, the professional politicians can keep the liberal and moral rightness which they develop when out of office, and if they can keep their political crisis cohorts in line, then their machine should have a better chance of survival.

It is in the building of just such a political machine as this that the California Democrats are now at work. The man who is making a strong bid to become its presiding genius is this same Bob Kenny, and there are few professional politicians in the state who are challenging his position. As Democratic attorney general under Republican Governor Earl Warren, Kenny is in a somewhat unusual position, but he is an unusual character and all the drive in the effort to take all the left and right wing factions of the Democratic party, putting them together into a political machine that will fly, is centered in his offices in the state building in San Francisco and the capital in Sacramento.

Kenny gets around. He is president of the national lawyers' guild, the liberal branch of the legal fraternity, as contrasted with the older, conservative American Bar association. He has been serving as a consultant at the United Nations conference. He was head of the California delegation at the Chicago convention last year and bore the brunt of the New Deal and PAC effort to swing the golden state delegation to Wallace, for the vice presidency. Kenny was for Truman, which stands him in good stead now.

He is acceptable to southern California and Los Angeles because he was born there, the native son of a native son. He is 44 years old. He was graduated from Stanford at 19, was a United Press correspondent, studied law at Southern California, and at 29 was a judge.

Eight years on the bench was all he could take so he resigned to run for state senate and beat the Ham and Eggs movement, which he did in a campaign notable because he spent no money and made no speeches. Another of his pet causes was to serve as president of the Crusaders. He still thinks Roosevelt's support of the wets was one of the main reasons for his popularity.

His name has been bandied about as a candidate for governor in 1946, or as Democratic candidate for Hiram W. Johnson's seat in the senate.

On the other hand, he is pretty happy where he is, might be perfectly content to build his party machine and then run the darn thing.

Side Glances

"And then here's a little bottle of smelling salts that comes with it!"

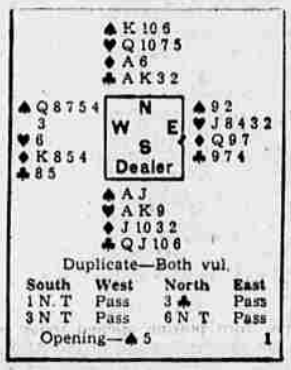
• McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

MOST EXPERTS SET ON THIS SLAM HAND

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

Mrs. Helen Sobel, the world's outstanding woman bridge player, said she thought today's hand was the most interesting of the tournament, as it provided a very unusual play. She said that while most pairs that got to six no trump went down, the hand could undoubtedly be made if, after winning the opening spade lead with the jack, the ace and king of hearts were cashed.



This shows the bad heart break. Now a small club should be led to the dummy and at this point, the six of diamonds played from dummy.

It is doubtful that East would jump in with the queen. Naturally, he would figure that for six no trump, South should have the king of diamonds.

But if East fails to go in with the queen of diamonds, you can see what happens. East is going to be forced to make a discard on the fourth club and on the third spade and will not be able to protect both the queen of diamonds and the hearts.

Questions & Answers

Q—What is the range of the new army cargo plane, the C-82 "Packet"?

A—Maximum range 4000 miles with 18,000 pounds of cargo, 500 miles.

Q—What is absolute zero?

A—The point at which theoretically, all molecular motion ceases. It exists at 459 degrees below Fahrenheit zero.

Q—How do increased altitudes affect digestion?

A—Among the proven effects is that digestive functions are slowed down as much as 33 per cent at altitudes of 10,000 feet or over.

• IN FORMER YEARS

10 Years Ago, May 31

Seventy-one seniors of Eastern Oregon Normal school formally entered commencement week today, with the first events of the annual graduation program held. Queen Evelyn Masten, of La Grande was crowned to reign over Evensong at a coronation ball, and an all-college picnic to be held at Cove is planned, with the freshmen as sponsors.

C. K. McCormick and his sister, Mrs. Madeline Rueter motored to Portland.

15 Years Ago, May 31

Miss Eleanor Vernon, dean of the girls and Latin teacher at the high school, left last night for Seattle where she will spend the summer. Miss Vernon will attend the summer school at the University of Washington.

Mrs. Otis Palmer is visiting in Portland with her parents. She plans to be gone about three weeks.

30 Years Ago, May 31

On a scale unequaled in years, La Grande yesterday and today paid homage for their country to the memories of the soldiers who fought and die. Commencing yesterday with memorial Sunday services and open air mass, the citizens have paid devout recognition to the memory of the soldiers. Yesterday morning one of the largest Catholic congregations assembled in months went to the Catholic cemetery and there heard mass said by Father Driscoll. Soldier graves were decorated in due solemness. In the afternoon a suitable program was carried out in the Baptist church. This morning a record crowd of people filed out to the cemetery. At the appointed hour local business men rovided automobiles in ample numbers to care for the old veterans, members of the Relief corps, children and Spanish American war veterans on their way to the cemetery where flowers were taken for dead soldiers.

This Curious World

NEXT: The prime of life of a housefly.