

# EDITORIAL PAGE

## La Grande Evening Observer

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"I'm Not Disturbin'g 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.

### TODAY'S TEXT

When ye go, ye shall come unto a people secure, and to a large land; for God hath given it unto your hands; a place where there is no want of anything that is in the earth.—Judges 18:10.

### Notes on New Cabinet Appointments Postage Due

The search for "trends" in the Truman administration was speeded up by the president's new cabinet appointments. Of the two New York newspapers which consistently and unquestioningly supported the late President Roosevelt, the Post found the appointments indicating that Mr. Truman was abiding by Mr. Roosevelt's "left of center" policy, while PM discovered through them that Mr. Truman was sticking to the "middle of the road."

The truth may well be that the appointments mark no trend whatsoever. Mr. Truman seems to have been intent on filling the posts with sound, unpretentious men who were not so prominent or so long in government as to have incurred those ideological enmities which long official residence in Washington so often engenders.

This reasoning doesn't apply to Mr. Truman's dispatch of Harry Hopkins on a mission to Moscow. Mr. Hopkins is long prominent and the object of intense feelings pro and con. But here again it seems that the president has

picked the best man for the job—in this case, a very difficult job which Mr. Hopkins can perform perhaps better than any man alive.

At the time of Mr. Roosevelt's death, his cabinet was made up of five New Yorkers, two men from Pennsylvania, and one each from Indiana, Illinois and Iowa. Now, for the first time in our history, half the cabinet members hail from west of the Mississippi. They are Commerce Secretary Wallace of Iowa, Postmaster General Hannegan of Missouri, and the three newcomers, Attorney General Clark of Texas, Agriculture Secretary Anderson of New Mexico, and Labor Secretary Schwelmbach of Washington.

When talk of Frances Perkins' resignation was revived a few months ago, it was said that she probably would stay on because Mr. Roosevelt could not find a replacement acceptable to the two big labor organizations.

Mr. Truman apparently got around that difficulty simply by selecting a man with a good labor record. At least, the CIO and AFL weren't heard from in public statement or speculation until after Mr. Schwelmbach's appointment, when both organizations informed the president that the new labor secretary was acceptable.

President Truman, who won national attention as head of a senate investigating committee, put another investigator in the limelight when he named the new secretary of agriculture. Mr. Anderson, who came to congress in 1940, wasn't even on the house agriculture committee. But he headed a special house committee looking into the food shortage, and apparently did a good fact-finding job.

It may be typical of Mr. Truman's methods that Mr. Anderson, like Mr. Schwelmbach, was not an outside organization's choice. Though a farmer, he doesn't belong to any national farmer's association.

### Funny Business



"For heaven's sake, stop passing meat markets!"

### SO THEY SAY

Nations which act as enemies in the marketplace cannot long be friends at the council table.  
—Assistant Secretary of State William L. Clayton.

If we do not recognize that man is a spiritual self within a body, regardless of color, it will be the Marxists and materialists who will be tilling the soil we should be tilling.  
—Rep. Charles M. LaFollette, Indiana.

It would be an even greater disaster for the United States after this war to commit its military forces to the preservation of an international order in which it had abdicated its moral leadership.  
—Rep. Samuel A. Weiss, Pennsylvania.

They (the Japs) are tough fighters—I'd say just as tough as the Germans.  
—Gen. Courtney H. Hodges, U. S. Army, on return to U. S.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—It has now been a little over one month since the American Ninth army paused on the outskirts of Berlin to let the Red army hammer its way into Hitler's capital. Since then, no allied mission has gone into Berlin, despite the Yalta agreement providing for a token force of American troops in Berlin and the governing of Germany by an allied mission of British, American, Russian and, later, French generals.

Failure to set up this allied mission inside Berlin generally has been blamed on the Russians.

Though Stalin did object to American troops entering Berlin ahead of the Red army (Russian capture of Berlin was agreed on at Yalta), actually U. S. officials have been largely responsible for the delay in sending a subsequent token force into Berlin and setting up allied headquarters to govern Germany.

If you ask the war department about this, you will get evasive, sawdust-in-the-eye answers. But actually three reasons have developed for U. S. hesitation over entering Berlin. They are:

1. If an allied commission is set up in Berlin, it would be necessary to abolish SHAEF (supreme headquarters, allied expeditionary force) and General Eisenhower would step down from being commander over the French and British. Instead, the French and British would be equal in command with Eisenhower in any four-cornered allied commission in Berlin. So would the Russians.

2. With all four nations working in Berlin, it is feared that cooperation with the Russians might be more difficult. At present, Russia governs its part of eastern Germany, while the western allies govern their part of western Germany. There is a strict line running between them and no inter-communication to speak of. This is not the plan originally arranged at Yalta. However, there has been so much friction during the closing days of the war, that U. S. commanders figure they may be better off remaining where they are instead of going into Berlin.

3. The British don't want to change the present setup where they are a part of SHAEF under General Eisenhower. As SHAEF now operates, the British are able to get a good part of their supplies from the United States to handle their part of occupied Germany. If SHAEF is disbanded, this supply arrangement stops.

Under the combined shipping board, most of the supplies for the British and American armies are even hauled in American ships. And if this stops, the British have the hardest part of Germany on their hands to feed. For the British-occupied Ruhr and the industrial west are heavily populated with

little farmland, formerly importing food from eastern Germany and Prussia. But with these eastern areas Russian-occupied, the British know they can't get any food from them.

So the British don't want SHAEF and the present U. S. supply arrangement disbanded.

Finally, some U. S. officials fear that cooperation with the French might become difficult if SHAEF were abolished. At present the French have to take orders from Eisenhower. But once an allied commission is set up in Berlin, the French would be equal partners, and their ideas on the future governing of Germany might be just as independent as the Russians.

Obviously the present make-shift situation cannot continue indefinitely. And there is a lot of debate inside the government on both sides; some say we had better go ahead and try out international cooperation over Germany right away and do our best. Others say we had best avoid headaches by keeping out of Berlin and sitting tight. The final answer probably will be made by President Truman himself.

### Capital Chaff

Jim Farley, now a soft-drink mogul, was walking down a San Francisco street the other day when he suddenly excused himself from a companion, tapped a postman on the shoulder and said: "Hello there, I'm Jim Farley. I used to be in your business myself" . . . After chatting with the ogle-eyed postman for a moment, Farley returned to his companion, explaining: "I never pass a postman without greeting him. I also try to stop off and visit the postmaster in every town I go into."

### Under the Dome

Congressman Clinton Anderson (the secretary of agriculture-to-be) has asked army's quartermaster corps for an official explanation why huge quantities of meat, butter, cigarettes, candy are sold through the post exchange in Ft. Belvoir, Va., to army desk officers living just outside Washington . . . An explanation also has been asked regarding army wives' alleged practice of buying meat for civilian neighbors at army post exchanges . . . Absentee senators probably will prevent any action on mustering out army oldsters (over 35 or 38). Too many senators have gone junketing to Europe. There are hardly enough around to do any real business . . . Yet congress wants a salary raise . . . Norman Case, former Republican governor of Rhode Island, will not be reappointed to the federal communications commission. His appointment had chiefly rested on personal friendship with FDR. . . . The new chairman of the national labor relations board will be Paul Herzog, a friend of Senator Wagner. Wagner was the father of the national labor relations act.

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

"The job future for demobilized service women depends in a large degree on public sanction of a woman's right to work regardless of sex and marital status."

So said Col. Ovetta Culp Hobby, WAC director, during a meeting of Business and Professional Women's clubs to discuss the problem.

Colonel Hobby is right, of course, and the "back to the home" clamor that is growing louder day by day poses a big question as to whether or not the public will sanction a woman's right to work regardless of sex and marital status if jobs are scarce in the post-war world.

But whatever the attitude is toward women, however prejudiced it may become when the fight for jobs is on, the women who wore their country's uniform when it

needed them should be a special group.

Discharged servicemen should have the first chance at jobs, of course. Nobody has given or risked as much during the war as they. But servicewomen should be right behind them. And no man who didn't get into uniform should be put ahead of servicewomen when it comes to getting jobs in the postwar world.

If we are going to say that servicemen have a right to be put first on an employer's list, then servicewomen have a right to be put second. For when their country called them, they answered, going wherever they were sent and doing whatever they were told to do.

They had to give up their jobs to do it—and when they want their jobs back, they ought not to stand behind anybody but a man who was also in uniform.

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO—When the San Francisco conference is all washed up and the United Nations charter is written, the key question will become, "What is to be the future position of the United States in world affairs?"

Without prejudice and without conviction as to their rightness or wrongness, some of the possibilities of this situation are worth a closer look.

It cannot be denied that many of the smaller nations will go home from San Francisco disappointed in the stand which the U. S. delegation has taken on many of the more important issues which have arisen at the conference—voting, trusteeships, regional security.

The feeling that "The United States does not know its own strength" is all too prevalent among delegates from the smaller nations. Their reliance on Roosevelt which at one time amounted to near worship, is now just a memory. In its place is a much more substantial respect for the United States as a country. This has been augmented by the trip to San Francisco which revealed the size and the resources and the unbelievably high standard of living which the American people enjoy. Now, more than ever, these delegates from the smaller countries would like to see the United States step out to assume world leadership.

The responsibilities which the United States would assume by such action would obviously be tremendous. It would put a burden of military guardianship on this country at a time when the American people are sick and tired of war and all its concomitants.

It is doubtful if American public opinion

would for long support a foreign policy calling for United States interference in the affairs of other nations, even as a protector of the oppressed against exploitation. American foreign policy never being able to run much ahead of what American public opinion will support, the idea that the Truman, or any other administration could step out too far in front as a world savior, imposing democracy even where it is wanted, of protecting anybody, any place, any time, is preposterous.

In spite of this obvious conclusion there is a decided feeling that the policy of the U. S. delegation at the conference has been governed too much by two motives:

First the desire to produce a charter which will be politically and practically acceptable to the United States senate when the work at San Francisco comes up for ratification.

Second the desire to make a document which will be acceptable to Great Britain and Russia, regardless of how it appeals to the rest of the world. This is predicated on a belief that unless the Big Three can agree in principle, world peace of any kind will be impossible.

It is entirely conceivable that both of these premises are way behind and way below a foreign policy which a majority of the people of the United States are willing to support. Only due time, the clock-mouthed old hussy, will tell.

The testing will be done when the United Nations organization is actually established and at work and the United States member of that august body takes his seat in the general assembly to defend and extend the principles on which this country was founded and built.

### Side Glances



"I'll be glad to get my job back, Gus, but you'll have to watch me for awhile—I'm used to cooking for 300 men!"

## McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

### DARING UNDER-LEAD SETS 'SURE' GAME

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

When I went to Waldemar von Zedwitz (who finished ninth in the tournament) for his best hand from the masters' individual, Charles Solomon, in eleventh place, spoke up with, "I will give you his best hand of the tournament."

dummy with the ace (old Von Zedwitz that West still had the king of spades. Not being content just to cash his ace, queen and jack of clubs, Von Zedwitz at this point simply cashed the ace of clubs and then played the four of clubs. Well, you cannot blame West for playing low. North won the trick with the nine spot and returned a club.

Thus North and South cashed six tricks, defeating an otherwise perfectly safe contract two tricks.

## IN FORMER YEARS

### 10 Years Ago

L. C. Morehead, district forest warden, received word that the U. S. army officers planned to begin construction of the CCC camp at Hilgard by the middle of June.

Warren Gilbert returned from Montrose, Colo., where he spent a week visiting his mother, Mrs. Elia K. Gilbert. He accompanied his mother home after she had spent some time visiting him here.

F. B. Appleby, former editor and publisher of the Observer and now of Ontario, Calif., spent a few days in La Grande visiting friends.

### 15 Years Ago

Rainfall in La Grande for two days stood at 1.1 inches.

Francis Newlin of Portland was visiting his mother, Mrs. Chester Newlin.

Miss Lawana Myers of Summerville visited at the home of Miss Margaret Dixon.

### 30 Years Ago

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the Royal box factory of Cove, valued at \$6,000. Insurance covered \$4,000 of loss but as the factory was about to commence its box making run for the season the loss was materially heavier than the actual value of the plant.

Because the railroads have announced that they would refuse shipments of livestock without inspection, Governor Withycombe named a number of inspectors, including Henry Haas of Enterprise for Wallbwa county and T. B. Johnson of Cove for Union county points.

## Questions & Answers

Q—Which is the largest of the three Scandinavian commonwealths?

A—Sweden is larger than Norway or Denmark. It is one-sixth larger than California.

Q—What has been the increase in the personnel of the American merchant marine?

A—In 1941, there were 55,000 in service; at end of 1944, 260,000 men were sailing our merchant ships.

## This Curious World



ANSWER: Most hemispherical maps give the division at the meridians 20 W. and 160 E. Some give 15 W. and 165 E. NEXT: The hummingbird, flyer extraordinary.