EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

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The Front Step Cleaner-Upper

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

As the father hath loved me so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.—John 15:9.

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No Cutback in Research

The cutback in airplane production is welcome, bringing as it does an estimated saving of $4,000,000,000 in the construction of 17,000 aircraft, and a sizable but gradual return of aviation's tremendous labor force to the civilian job market.

This is a preview of what will happen immediately after V-J Day in aviation and other war production industries under section 202 of the war mobilization and reconversion act. But it also raises the question of what will happen then to aviation's research and development program.

Section 202 states: "Any contracting agency shall terminate prime contracts for war production whenever, in the opinion of the agency, the performance under such contracts will not be needed for the prosecution of the war, and shall not continue performance under such contracts merely for the purpose of providing business and employment.

Then comes the phrase on which the question rests: ". . . unless the office of war mobilization and reconversion finds that the continuation of some or all of the work in process under such contracts will benefit the government."

The phrase's interpretation is a matter of personal opinion. There is no clear definite of the fate of the aviation development now in progress, not only for the Pacific war but for the future. What becomes of reach into jet propulsion, guided missiles and other developments when the war ends? At present there is no agreement and no answer.

It seems to us that there should be both. When the first German jet plane and the first robot bomb appeared in the European skies they put the mighty allied air fleets in the obsolescent class. The fact that the number and power of those fleets retarded full use of new air weapons in Europe and will probably prevent their use by the Japs does not mean that their military days are not numbered.

We may hope that there will be no military need for these air weapons in the future. We must work to make that hope a reality. But at the same time we cannot afford to repeat our costly aviation errors of the period following the last war.

That means that we cannot wait for some future day to think about aviation research. Rather we need a long-range, continuing research program carried on by the aviation industry's present engineering teams, and made possible by congressional authorization of the army and navy to direct and finance a program.

Funny Business

"Take a night letter, Miss Jones!"

• SO THEY SAY

I do not approve of government in business, but I do feel that there are great possibilities in closer co-operation between government and business.
—Emil Schram, president, New York stock exchange.

Let's have the truth about the world picture. Let all existent secret commitments be aired and then let the practice of making them be banned forever as an international policy.
—Sen. Alexander Wiley, Wisconsin.

The Filipinos recognize the necessity of American protection and welcome you people here.
—President Sergio Osmena of the Philippines.

We never got a damned thing from the Germans.
—Maj. George Ott, New England, N. D., returned from German prison camp.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — Washington observers have commented on the political demise of the man once closest to the White House throne—"Tommy the Cork" Corcoran. Yet last week that same Tommy the Cork accomplished almost single-handed the amazing feat of changing the government of China.

He got Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek out as premier of China and put his friend T. V. Soong in—despite the fact that the two brothers-in-law hate each other.

Moreover, he did this largely by a photograph.

For many years, Corcoran has been a close friend of T. V. Soong, brother of Madame Chiang Kai-Shek. Corcoran was one of the most ardent battlers for opening the Burma road and getting supplies to China. So, when Soong came to Washington last month, Corcoran put his famous brain to work to get some token, significant to the Chinese, which would signify Soong's influence with the Truman administration.

He figured that a photograph of Soong with the new president of the United States, plus the secretary of war, plus the secretary of the navy, plus the secretary of state, would do the trick.

So Corcoran got his close friend, Secretary of the Navy Forrestal, to arrange for the photo in the rear garden of the White House. Next day, there was featured on the front pages of many newspapers a picture of the Chinese foreign minister with Truman, Stettinius, Stimson and Forrestal.

Chinese Face

The effect on China was electrifying. No other visiting dignitary had ever appeared in such a picture. Not even British Foreign Minister Eden, nor Molotov, nor French Foregn Minister Bidault.

In China, "face" counts almost more than anything. And a man who is close to the top leaders of a government which is the main benefactor of China automatically rates tops at home.

In addition, Soong brought home the bacon in other respects. He got a final promise of the U. S. gold previously earmarked for China.

With his prestige sufficiently enhanced by the photo, Soong flew off to become premier of China.

Part of Soong's argument to U. S. cabinet members who are considered anti-Russian was that the Chungking government needed to be strengthened as a bulwark against Moscow. "To liberal cabinet members, Soong argued that if his prestige was built up, he would be strong enough to go to Moscow and work out a deal for cooperation with the northern Chinese communists.

Ed Pauley's Oil

When Attorney General Biddle started his suit to recover submerged oil under the ocean—especially off the California coast—he was hitting directly at one of President Truman's staunchest supporters—Ed Pauley.

However, Biddle made the move only after getting Truman's advance consent.

Pauley, former treasurer of the Democratic national committee and mainspring in winning Truman's Chicago nomination, is one of the independent oil operators who have been sucking a fortune out of the ocean bed between the California coast and the three-mile limit. It is reported that Pauley's take from submerged oil runs to around $30,000 a month.

For several years, both Biddle and Secretary of the Interior Ickes have been wanting to crack down on this flow of oil from what they consider federal lands. Biddle prepared a suit back in 1939. But nothing happened. Roosevelt couldn't get steamed up about it and oil company pressure was terrific. Pauley at that time was not particularly high in democratic party councils. But other Californians were, and the state of California itself reaps a rich harvest from leasing this ocean shelf to private companies.

Finally, just after Truman entered the White House, Biddle placed before him the submerged oil controversy and recommended a lawsuit. The new president didn't hesitate. He ok'd the move immediately.

"You'd better take some time to think it over," the attorney general suggested. "It's a delicate question. It might be a good idea to talk it over with Ed Pauley."

Truman did think it over. By this time Pauley had become much more influential in the democratic party than in 1939 and Truman was considerably indebted to him. However, Truman did not change his mind. He told Biddle to proceed with the suit. And though the attorney general is leaving the cabinet, the suit for recovery of the submerged oil is going ahead.

The potent array of oil lobbyists Biddle had to overcome included: Howard K. Marshall, former attorney for Standard of California and for the petroleum administration for war; Welbourn Maycock, attorney for the democratic national committee and for Ed Pauley; Oscar Lawler, former solicitor of the interior department and prominent California attorney; and Pauley himself. Sitting on the sidelines also was Ralph Davies, vice-president of Standard, now deputy PAW administrator.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Now that servicemen are beginning to come home under the point system, war marriages are going to be given a thorough test. Much of the pessimistic talk about divorces to follow reunions of husbands and wives once the war is over is certain to be disproven.

For many marriages will actually be strengthened because of the war. Thousands of young men and women have learned from separation just how important their marriages are.

Think of the couples who had grown so accustomed to their normal routines, so sure of themselves and their marriage ties, that they were beginning to be bored. And then came war and separation, and before long both Mary and Bill realized how much the life they had built together really meant to them.

War brought a rude awakening, when they found out just how much they had come to depend on each other for understanding and companionship. And they learned how little their freedom meant, once they had shared their lives togethr.

Mary and Bill will have a new appreciation for each other and for the happiness their marriage brings. And nothing will make either of them forget how much they missed each other, and how little they gained by separation.

Many marriages will hold together more firmly simply because forced separation has made husbands and wives aware of their mutual dependency. The experts may be right about some of the hasty marriages that will end in divorce courts, but the odds are all in favor of nappily married couples.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO—For the reporters who have had to milk spot news out of the cud-chewing committees which are working in secret to draft the United Nations charter, this San Francisco conference has been pure pain in the hips. But dear old UNCIO has been good for a million belly laughs, too. Among them:

Calling the eight-man U. S. delegation, "Snow White Stettinius and the Seven Dwarfs."

Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk of Czechoslovakia telling Stellz Karns, "Oh, I'm so tired I can't remember whether I'm a little boy or a little girl."

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune of the National association for the Advancement of Colored People telling a state department official, who was trying to explain the functions of the social and economic council, "Let's put the cookies on the bottom shelf where we can all reach 'em."

Robert M. Gaylord, president of the National association of Manufacturers complaining to an associate because he couldn't get an official conference button to take home to his family as a souvenir.

One of the business group consultants telling a woman representative of one of the more militant pacifist groups, "It's people like you who start wars."

The Arabian delegates moving for committee adjournment whenever the subject of equality for the sexes was brought up in committee meetings.

A Pittsburgh Negro lawyer arguing that Walter White, head of the National association for the Advancement of Colored People, shouldn't be permitted to represent his race and be an official conference consultant because, "White isn't a Negro—he's an intellectual."

A reporter asking why a bearded French correspondent carried a little toy lamb around with him and being told, "Because he likes little woolly lambs. He has three of them in London but brought only one of them with him to San Francisco."

A war correspondent just back from the Philippines reporting that the famous picture of MacArthur wading ashore at Leyte was a fake. If it had been MacArthur he would have been walking on the water.

General Carlos P. Romulo of the Philippines saying that the Japanese people might soon discover Hirohito wasn't the son of Heaven but a son of something else.

The drafting committee which spent two hours in hot debate on some proposed amendment to the charter and then discovered it wasn't supposed to deal with the subject it had been debating, it sent a transcript of its deliberations to the proper committee to save it time and trouble.

T. V. Soong, foreign minister of China, leaving San Francisco before any other head of a delegation and thereby "saving face" through not having it appear that he was the only personage without other important business elsewhere.

The delegation trying to have Esepranto adopted as the official language of the United Nations.

The flood of proposals for official United Nations songs, anthems, poems and flags which poured down on the division of cultural cooperation, all having to be rejected with thanks.

The delegation from Chicago which wanted to get hold of a few specimen war refugees so they could be psychoanalyzed to show how liberated nations should be treated.

H. V. Kaltenborn delivering a lecture on the private life of a seal, at Cliff House, and drawing a big audience of autograph collectors.

Baukhage riding with a taxi driver who was one of his fans, both of them listening intently to a rebroadcast of a Baukhage program and both thoroughly enjoying it.

The delegation trying to get international calendar reform written into the United Nations charter.

Side Glances

"You missed your calling, Mom—the way you can pretty up your face in a few minutes, I bet you'd be a swell artist on canvas'"

• McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

SQUEEZE PLAY WINS FOR DR. MOREHEAD

The New York Athletic club ran off its annual club championship not long ago and it was won by Dr. E. W. Morehead and Charles Gachot.

I dropped in just to kibitz a few hands and saw Dr. Morehead handle a nice squeeze in making today's hand. The opening club lead was won with the king in dummy. Dummy then played the ten of diamonds, West covered with the jack and Morehead put on the king, East winning with the ace and immediately cashing the queen. At this point, East played a heart which was won in dummy with the ace. The ace of clubs was cashed and the small diamond discarded. The three of clubs was trumped with the five of hearts. The king of hearts was cashed and another heart played, throwing West in the lead. West came back with the diamond which Morehead trumped and now proceeded to cash his trump. East found that he could not protect the king and seven of spades and the ten of clubs due to the fact that dummy held the ace and ten of spades and the nine of clubs.

Dr. Morehead
♠ Q 5
♥ K J 10 9 6 5 2
♦ K 8 3
♣ 5

♠ J 9 6
♥ Q 8 3
♦ J 9 6 4
♣ 8 4 2

N W E S Dealer

♠ K 7 4
♥ 7 4
♦ A Q 7 2
♣ Q J 10 6

♠ A 10 8 3 2
♥ A
♦ 10 5
♣ A K 9 7 3

Duplicate—Both vul.

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥	Pass

Opening—♣ Q. 5

Questions & Answers

Q—What is the oldest medical society in the United States?

A—The American Psychiatric association, founded 101 years ago.

Q—What is the function of the tachometer on an airplane's instrument board?

A—It counts the engine revolutions, advising the pilot of the power output of his engine.

Q—How do Russian soldiers become officers?

A—By advancement from the ranks.

Q—What is the derivation of the name "Cecilia?"

A—It occurs from the Latin, and means gray-eyed, or blind.

• IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago

Joe Woods, the old-time stage driver of Eastern Oregon left for Yellowstone, Wyoming to enter service of the Yellowstone-Western Stage company and drive a six-horse team through the Yellowstone park during the tourist season.

After spending a little more than a year in Montana, Rube Zweifel returned to La Grande, planning to remain for the motor cycle races. He was a contestant in the first La Grande to Baker races.

10 Years Ago

The Mt. Emily Lumber company sawmill, which has been inactive since the last of April, will reopen Thursday morning for an indefinite run, it was announced.

Mrs. N. Parks, accompanied by Ivan and Elvie Parks, and Miss Edith Mozier, went to Enterprise from where they made the trip to Imnaha over the new highway.

15 Years Ago

Miss Katharyn Peetz arrived from Pendleton to spend a two-week vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Peetz.

Mrs. Ed Kiddle of Island City moved to La Grande to make her home.

Kenton Beverage, who has been living with his grandmother, Mrs. Margaret Blystone during the winter, went to the home of his parents near Union to spend the summer.

This Curious World

ANSWER: The Gulf of Guinea, off the west coast of Africa, where the prime meridian crosses the equator, at sea level.

NEXT: Another forest fire hazard.