

EDITORIAL PAGE

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"There's No Shortage of White Crosses, Mister!"



Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—The inside story of how the army and navy are burning up Japan's main cities, block by block, may now be revealed at least in part.

The two greatest contributions to the burning of Japan are the B-29 and a new, still somewhat mysterious fire-bomb known as the "goop bomb." Just how the "goop bomb" got its name isn't known. However, it's the most terrible fire spreader in the world. Part of its secret is an oily much developed by petroleum chemists. This makes the contents of the bombs stick in glue-like gobs to anything it hits, making it almost impossible for Japanese firefighters to scrape it loose.

However, what really made the bomb the most terrible in the world was experiments carried out by some of Henry Kaiser's west coast scientists. They found Kaiser had a surplus of fast burning, white-hot magnesium production on his hands, and they also knew one of the greatest difficulties in making magnesium is its high explosive content. So they experimented with mixing magnesium dust in the oil of the bomb.

This magnesium dust, lights up in a searing blaze as soon as it comes in contact with air. Result is the hottest fire ever known.

Most important effect of the "goop bomb" is that no known firefighting equipment can douse its flames. Water only adds to the blaze; as do any of the other specialized fire-fighting chemicals. All the Japs do now against the "goop bomb" is to try to confine the area in which it burns, not put it out.

This is one reason for increasing optimism about an early end of the Jap war.

No Suez Lend-Lease

British insistence that the United States pay tolls on troops and war supplies shipped through the Suez canal continues to rankle in high circles.

London's explanation is that Suez is not British-government-owned, but controlled by an international company. (The British own about 44 per cent of the stock, the French 52 per cent and the Dutch the balance.) However, U. S. officials don't accept the idea that the British stock is privately controlled. Actually, Britain's share of the stock is tightly controlled by the British government, and one of the famous events in the reign of Queen Victoria was Disraeli's bold stroke in borrowing 4,000,000 pounds sterling in the name of the British cabinet to secure a large block of canal stock for the

government.

However, in order to get around the British excuse regarding international ownership of Suez, Washington proposed to London that we be given reverse lend-lease on Suez tolls equivalent to the ownership of British stock. In other words, if the British own 44 per cent of Suez stock, they would reduce canal tolls to American warships and troopships by 44 per cent.

We also made the same proposal to the French, namely that Suez tolls be given us on reverse lend-lease equal to ownership of French stock, or about 52 per cent.

Both refused. Now that we are shipping troops and supplies from Europe through Suez to the Pacific war, canal tolls run into millions. British war supplies going through the Panama canal get free tolls under lend-lease.

America's No. One Heel

Former OPA Administrator Leon Henderson is a sad man these days. Every time he picks up the newspapers, he reads story after story telling how Washington has given some manufacturer permission to produce again.

Henderson recalls how he gained the reputation of being "America's number one heel," by cutting down the American civilian consumption to almost zero.

"If I could only change all that," moans Henderson. "If the president would only give me a job for one week—just one short week—in which I could give the people back some of the things I took away from them. Then folks wouldn't think I'm such a bad guy after all."

Capital Chaff

It hasn't been publicized, but in addition to voting an additional \$2,500 for each senator, the senate appropriations committee also increased the senatorial stationery allowance from \$200 to \$400 per senator, and voted that each senator be allowed 26 free long-distance telephone calls per month while in Washington and \$300 worth of calls per year while outside of Washington. Last year, for the first time, a provision was made for ten free long distance calls per month per senator—all calls to originate in Washington. This year the number is raised to 26, either originating in or terminating in Washington. There was never any provision before for calls in which neither party is in Washington, but now \$300 worth of such calls are allowed.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

A woman civil engineer interested in "the most fundamental of all our American small businesses, the home" has some sound ideas for making the relationship between housekeepers and the people they employ to help them do their work more businesslike.

One of Elsie Eve's ideas is that there is no reason why domestic service should continue to be considered menial. That, for example, the wash woman could be taught about textiles and proper treatment of them and become a "textile renovator." And other household workers could also become "experts" in their fields—and be sent out from a community service center, with a good personnel manager at its head, to houses needing an expert's help.

If men were running the country's homes, such a scheme would be entirely practical, perhaps. But not while women are running the homes. Housewives just don't want "experts" doing their washing and ironing and cooking for them, for the very simple reason that housewives are jealous of their

position of being the only "expert" in their households.

The average housewife can't even turn a woman loose to scrub the kitchen floor without giving her directions as to how "I like to have things done," and then checking up on her afterward to make sure she got into the corners.

Every housewife has her own way of "doing things"—and everyone is sure there is no other way quite as good—not even the way her best friends do their cooking and cleaning.

Furthermore, the housewife's ego is partly dependent on her right to "direct" the cleaning woman and to confide to her own friends all of that poor soul's faults, frailties, and strange ways.

Not until women have enough outlet for their energy, ambition, and egos will they be anxious to have "experts" in their homes who admittedly know more about their particular jobs than even the housewives themselves.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO—War relocation authority, the war-time guardian of over 100,000 alien and native-born Japanese-Americans, is planning to go out of business not later than Jan. 2, 1946, says W. R. Cozzens, WRA's deputy director in charge of its western operations.

There will be some 20,000 alien and undesirable "detainees" and "excludes" left in the big relocation center at Tule Lake, Calif., on the Oregon line, but by the end of the year they will all be turned over to the department of justice for detention until such time as they can be shipped back to Japan where, for some strange reason, they have expressed a desire to go. By and large these "deportees" are the older Japs and their wives plus their oldest children and families who own or will inherit property in Japan.

Of the American citizens of Japanese ancestry who are electing to remain in the United States, nearly 43,000 have already been cleared from the eight western camps or assembly centers, as they are now called. They have been leaving the camps at the rate of over 100 a week, but with the closing of an augmented evacuation, permitting the camp schools this month there will WRA to go out of business by the end of the year.

If the pattern set thus far holds good, less than 50 per cent of the Japanese-Americans will return to the west coast areas where they lived before the war. Half of those cleared from the WRA centers up to June 1 have sought to make new homes in other parts of the country. They have settled in every state in the union, South Carolina being the last one to receive a WRA evacuee. While they have scattered widely, biggest concentrations are in Denver, St. Louis, Milwaukee, St. Paul, Chicago, Cleveland and New York. Many of those going to the Manhattan area are California farmers who expect to hoe out new existences on the many

truck farms supplying the metropolis.

Before clearing any of its charges, war relocation authority has tried to do a job of giving information as to what conditions will be in every part of the country, says Cozzens. Then it is up to the individual to decide where he wants to go to make his new home.

WRA provides railroad transportation to destination, plus a \$3 a day allowance for meals en route and a stake of \$25 for each individual up to a maximum of \$100 for each family on which to begin the new life.

Many of the Japanese-Americans have some money of their own. Purchases in relocation center cooperative stores showed that, because average individual spending was usually 50 per cent greater than camp earnings during the period of detention.

Some 8,000 Japanese families owned property—farms, stores, homes, barber shops, machinery or house furnishings which were kept in storage by WRA. This property was largely held in California and the owners have had a natural desire to come back and claim it after their clearance from the camps, if only to dispose of it; before moving on to new locations. But to many who were born in California and have lived here all their lives, the urge to come back and pick up where they left off is strong.

The problems of war-time living have been too much for some. Getting gas rations, food ration books, overcoming the opposition of other Americans who view all people of Jap extraction as enemies even though they are native born citizens, is more than they can cope with. They try to get back into the camps to be taken care of for the duration, but the WRA is having none of them. It impresses on every departing detainee the fact that once he leaves camp, he's on his own.

WRA officials have of course taken a terrific beating on the whole program, but it was admittedly one of the toughest jobs of the home front war effort.

Side Glances



"Here she comes again, and I know what she's going to say—according to the recent survey we ought to have plenty of pork chops and we must be hiding 'em!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

HEART FINESSE WINS CLUB TITLE

The Vanderbilt cup committee once again gave the entire receipts of the national knock-out team of four championship tournament for the Vanderbilt cup to charity. The funds this year went to the Travelers' Aid society for servicemen's lounges.

Winning of the Vanderbilt tournament gave Charles Goren

by doubling it. West got off to a tricky opening, but Goren won the trick with the king and led the five of spades. When West played low, Goren played the four from dummy. The five of diamonds was won by West with the ace. As the heart finesse was good, Goren made his contract.

IN FORMER YEARS

10 Years Ago

Sixty-four seniors were graduated from Eastern Oregon Normal school.

James MacDonald of Ponderso, was one of the members of the cavalry unit of Hill Military academy who won an award and a ribbon at the horse show and riding exhibition of the academy. The cadet winners were honored at a luncheon given in the school mess hall at Rocky Butte, by their instructor, Major Rupert N. Hill, and B. W. Hill, headmaster.

15 Years Ago

The La Grande Rotary club voted to give the municipal band \$200 to help defray the expense of a trip to Portland to enter the Northwest band contest. Andrew Loney, Jr. was the director.

It was announced by the state parent-teacher associations that the crap book entered by the Riveria P-TA won the highest award at the recent annual convention of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers in Denver. Only eight books were accepted from the entire state and Oregon was signally honored in that six received the highest rating, a gold star, and the other two received the next highest rating, a red star.

30 Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Law of North Powder were in town. H. C. Oliver, freight agent for O.W., accompanied by his wife, went to Enterprise.

Motorcycles to be used in the annual road race at Mt. Glen later in the month began arriving.

Mose Thompson, resident of this city, while visiting his daughter at Chesnimuss, killed two huge grizzly bears, one of which weighed over 800 pounds.

This Curious World



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Quoting Odds

"WHEN YOU STAY WITHIN YOUR BUDGET YOU GO WITHIN," Says MILTON KRATZ, South San Francisco, Calif.

SUITS 85

A FIVE-COURSE BANQUET WAS SERVED AT IONA STATE COLLEGE WITH ALL-SOYBEAN INGREDIENTS, INCLUDING SOYBEAN COFFEE AND ICE CREAM.

6-6

NEXT: Men without a country.

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

Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not; for they are a rebellious house.—Ezekiel 12:2.

Off-Key Censorship

A heavy fog of censorship seems to have closed in on Europe in the wake of the war clouds. Russia's rigid policy of press control has been extended westward to the Elbe. A partial news blackout in Italy is apparent in the incomplete story of the British arrest of Socialist Pietro Nenni for speaking to an audience of workers.

It is gratifying indeed to see that SHEAF has removed all censorship restrictions in the European theater except those concerned with actual military movements. It was a most disturbing thing to have the United States army contribute to that fog of censorship, which it seemed to do, according to complaints of various American correspondents in Germany.

There was, of course, no earthly excuse for that sort of censorship. The enemy in Europe is defeated and largely demobilized. The allies are in control.

Yet one correspondent said that American writers were denied access to any Nazi papers and documents. Another told of photographers being barred from Berchtesgaden after an American general had been pictured conversing

with Nazi Field Marshal Kesselring over a bottle of wine.

A third complained that correspondents had to present questions to Julius Streicher, the Jew-baiter, through an American officer, and that they were expressly forbidden to question Streicher on the persecution of Jews. Still another stated that they had not been allowed to interview prominent political refugees such as Kurt Schuschnigg of Austria.

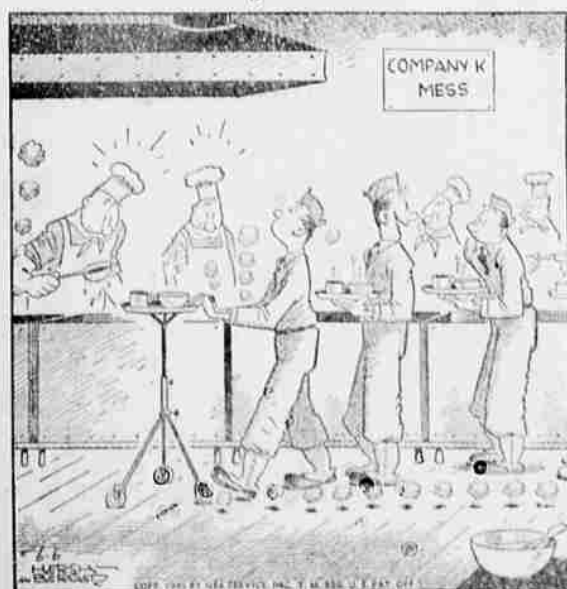
This was censorship for reasons of policy, not security. One purpose would seem to be a display of officer personnel in the most favorable light. Other purposes were entirely unclear, though it may be that the military's necessary wartime business of ordering people about and telling them what to do becomes a habit, reasonably pleasant and hard to break.

The result of such censorship, however, is clear even, if its motives are not. It tends to put army policy and practices beyond the range of public responsibility. And since the army in Germany is now chiefly concerned with civil administration, it should be as accountable as any other civil administration operating with public funds.

But it is not accountable because it makes its own rules. And some of those rules, right and proper in time of war, should have been altered to meet changed conditions. One was the rule that representatives of public information outlets can remain and operate in army-occupied territory only on the condition that they write what the army says they may write, even though the subjects may have nothing to do with the army per se.

This sort of censorship is a despised practice of the dictator governments which the army itself, with such strength and courage and suffering, has only just overthrown.

Funny Business



"He says he's conserving his energy for marching!"

SO THEY SAY

No one knows better than the army troops and marines on Okinawa how tough is the Japanese defense and how stubborn is their resistance born of desperation.

—Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson.

A stockpiling program for another future war, would be particularly senseless.

—Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson.

It is stupendous. It is colossal. It is beyond any other country.

—Col. K. S. Himmatinski, military adviser to assistant general of India, touring Detroit's industrial area.

What a great argument it will give petitioners before the war labor board that congress itself has broken the Little Steel Formula!

—Senator Morris of Oregon, commenting on tax-free senate expense accounts.