

### An Impossible Equation



#### 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

What is my strength that I should hope? and what is mine end, that I should prolong life?—Job 6:11.

#### THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Power is more safely retained by cautious than by severe councils.—Tacitus.

#### The Full-Employment Bill

A bill of excellent intent, popularly known as the full-employment bill, has come before congress with the blessing of war mobilizer Vinson and, apparently, of President Truman. Its purpose is the just and necessary one of guaranteeing a job to everyone with the ability and desire to work.

It would achieve this purpose by having the president submit to congress an annual production and employment budget, containing a statement of the nation's job needs in the coming year and an estimate of private and public investment and expenditure to provide these jobs.

If investment and expenditure didn't promise to fill the job quota, the president could recommend a program to stimulate private investment. If that failed, he could then recommend a public spending program.

We doubt that the bill as it stands would fulfill its intentions. One reason is that it apparently is based on the necessity of 60,000,000 jobs. And no-

body yet, so far as we know, has proved that to be anything more than an arbitrary figure.

In the boom year of 1943, 51.5 million civilians had jobs. Some put in overtime equal to the labor of another 5 million workers on a pre-war work-week basis. That makes 56.5 millions. Subtract the 5.8 million housewives, over-age and under-age workers holding jobs, and you get 50.7 million.

To increase this force to 60 million would mean employing almost every person in the armed forces. That takes no account of the many young servicemen and women who want to finish their education, those who will remain in an undoubtedly expanded peacetime army and navy, the young women in the civilian labor force who might want to quit work and get married, and the civilian workers of both sexes whose schooling is not completed.

The bill doesn't seem to couple any goal of national income with this full employment. It sets up public works machinery before making a move to ease wartime restrictions on private business and thus encourage investment and expansion.

It is certainly government's duty to create an atmosphere in which full employment can flourish, to provide work at times when private business is unable to, and to guide the national economy away from the dangers of depression, inflation, and unfair business practices.

But to achieve prosperity it is necessary to do more than set a goal of 60,000,000 jobs. It is necessary to ask what kind of jobs they are going to be, and how likely they are to last. It is necessary to admit that, under our system, there have to be employers as well as jobs, and to recognize that without a good many sound, solvent and reasonably unrestricted employers, the jobs won't be very good.

#### Funny Business



"Can a guy win a Purple Heart for what I'm about to get?"

#### SO THEY SAY

Com (Billy) is a tough hitter. He might get a decision with Joe Louis. But he couldn't knock him out.

—Jack Johnson, former heavy-weight champion.

I declare it to you from the bottom of my heart that no Socialist system can be established without a political police... some sort of Gestapo.

—British Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

With all its arrogance and its open contempt for diplomatic procedure, Russia is carrying through an anti-fascist policy.

The fact is, Russia's own national interests demand the extermination of the whole fascist setup.

—Louis Fischer, retiring editor of The Nation.

The emperor represents God in Japan. He should pay for imper-

sonating God.

—Admiral William F. Halsey.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—The state department is now going to the extreme length of arresting newspapermen who expose the backstage bungling of our diplomats. Woodrow Wilson, who championed open covenants openly arrived at, once said:

"We do not need less criticism, but more. It is hoped that criticism will be constructive, but better unfair criticism than autocratic repression. Honesty and competency require no shield of secrecy."

This columnist, who believes that the people who fought this war have a right to know what our government is doing to prevent another war, will continue to turn the spotlight on the mistakes and the successes, the connivings and the connipions of American diplomacy—despite state department threats of jail.

And because it was the most important diplomatic conversation since President Truman took office, in fact one of the most important of the year, this column publishes today a factual summary of the talks between President Truman, Foreign Minister Molotov, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Secretary of State Stettinius when the Soviet envoy arrived in this country en route to San Francisco.

Their talks, though in no way sensational, are important to the American public's understanding of our complicated relations with Russia. And if this be something for which the state department wants to impose a jail sentence, this columnist is ready to test the case in any court.

#### Truman Was Brief

President Truman opened his first talk with Molotov on Sunday, April 22, at Blair House by telling the Russian foreign minister that the United States government was much disturbed at the way in which the Soviet union was handling the Polish issue, and he asked that Molotov discuss it in detail with Stettinius and Eden.

Molotov, in reply, expressed surprise. Truman went on to say that the Polish issue had created a bad impression in the United States and that he would like to talk it over further with Molotov after Molotov's talks with Stettinius and Eden.

This ended the Truman phase of the interview. Molotov then went across the street to the state department where he sat down with Secretary Stettinius and Foreign Secretary Eden. The former began by stating that he was grieved—and that Eden shared his reaction—over the fact that Russia had suddenly signed a mutual assistance pact with the Lublin government just at a time when the future status and recognition of

the Lublin government was up for discussion between the Big Three.

To this, Molotov replied that the pact with the Lublin Poles was no different from that signed with Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. He further said that the pact was essential to the security of the Soviet union.

Molotov also explained that the Lublin government was constantly being broadened, that it was still a weak regime and needed bolstering.

#### Molotov Run-Around

Stettinius and Eden then emphasized the point that the Yalta pact had not been carried out regarding Poland, and that more Poles from the London government should be brought into the Lublin government.

Molotov said his government had approved the inclusion of certain London Poles in the Lublin government, but that the London Poles were not agreeable. He referred to Stalin's note of April 7, in which the Russians said they would welcome ex-Premier Mikolajczyk and others.

Eden protested that he didn't like the unilateral way the Russians had been operating in regard to Poland. (At Yalta it was agreed that the future of Poland was to be decided by U. S. Ambassador Harriman and British Ambassador Clark Kerr, acting with Molotov, instead of Moscow's writing notes on its own to the Poles.)

To this Molotov replied: "You must not forget that the security of Russia in the future is involved in this matter. And we can't take a casual attitude."

#### Molotov Gets Tired

At this point Molotov said he was tired from his long airplane trip, needed a rest and time to think things over.

Next day, Secretary Stettinius opened the discussion again by repeating that it was urgent that agreement on Poland be reached by the Big Three.

Molotov shot back that agreement would be simple if the Yalta formula were followed. All the allies would have to do, he said, was to accept the Lublin government as a nucleus for the government of Poland, as agreed to at Yalta by Churchill and Roosevelt.

Foreign Minister Eden immediately questioned this interpretation as what was agreed to at Yalta. Stettinius, however, said nothing. Molotov stood firm, saying that he was at Yalta, as were the other two, and this was his interpretation of the Polish agreement.

At this point, the conferees gave the Polish question up as a bad job. They then turned to preliminary San Francisco problems.

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Seniors at Oklahoma college for women left enough money in war bonds for a graduate's modeled after the bobby sox co-ed of 1945—sloppy Joe sweater, saddle oxfords, and all.

Just in case future co-eds look askance at the 1945 campus costume, perhaps there should be an inscription at the base of the statue explaining the how and why of the get-up.

Something along this line, perhaps. "We happened to like saddle oxfords, but that wasn't the only reason for their popularity. They were well in a day of shoe rationing, and walked well in a time when even jalepis were scarce on college campuses.

"The bobby sox looked lots better, believe it or not, than the droopy rays older women wore at the time.

"The sweater and skirts were comfort-

able, (inexpensive and not much trouble during a time when fancy clothes cost a lot and the family were all buying war bonds.

#### Reason Enough

"We liked the long glamor bob because we could take care of it ourselves and didn't have to spend our time and money in crowded beauty parlors.

"As for our 'sloppy look' why not? There weren't many boys to date, few big parties, and the usual Friday night was just going to a movie with the girls and having a coke afterward."

But in a year or two they may have to add this post script: "P. S. When the boys came back we went out and bought the prettiest dresses we could find, shoes with the highest heels, the sheerest stockings. We're sure co-eds of any generation will understand why the sudden change."

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, Calif.—Biggest sight-seeing attraction for delegates and technical assistants at the United Nations conference has been the California redwood trees. When the visiting diplomats want to get away from voting formulas and trusteeships for a week end, they come up here by the carload and bustle to gaze in reverence and awe on the oldest living thing in the park, a giant sequoia which is estimated to be 3800 years old.

The current gag is that this tree was planted in 1900 B. C., on the day the San Francisco conference was convened.

Of course the conference has been going only seven weeks, but to many of the delegates it doesn't seem a day less than 3800 years. In fact, some of the wags say that you measure the age of a delegate and the length of time he has been in San Francisco in exactly the same way you measure the age of one of the big trees—by counting the rings.

There's a circle and a wrinkle in the bags under the eyes for every week spent in San Francisco.

Still another idea is that conference time should be told in the same way they measure the age of Mt. Shasta which was once an active volcano erupting molten lava all over northern California, or of El Capitan, Half Dome, or Cloud Rest, the mile-high promontories of granite which were carved out by the glaciers here in the Yosemite back in the ice age some 6,000,000 years ago.

The eruptions of oratory, the mountains of ice cubes that have melted and poured over this landscape in the past seven weeks have made it seem longer than the seven days of creation. When this present period of time is properly ticketed, it will probably be known as the "Conference Geologic Age."

The human rights provisions are definitely neanderthal in their concept of culture and education. The ideas on trusteeship, independence and self-government were carved whole out of the pleiocene. The small nations have a feeling they have been pushed back into the Miocene under the Russian foreign policy which is unquestionably glacial—large masses of ice moving down from the polar cap to shift land masses and boundaries about like so many terminal moraines.

As a matter of fact it may take a geologist to pry some of the secrets out of the silent rock strata into which the committees and commissions of this conference have been divided. No wonder the delegates flock to the Yosemite to get new perspectives. Trying to reconstruct the body and breathe the breath of life into the fossilized handouts of progress in drafting the United Nations charter is just too much.

Though it was announced at the outset that the writing of this charter might take two months or more, only half that time had passed before the conference news was off the first page of the newspapers, driven back inside by news of new wars and rumors of wars still to come. Today the conference is rating only a third or half a column in most papers, nothing at all in others.

The sad truth is that nobody seems to give a damn about peace. Too dull, no sex appeal. No gags. Phony. Phony.

May be what the conference needs is a good press agent. The show is dead. Somebody will have to pass a miracle. President Truman's scheduled appearance for the final curtain may do a lot to save the performance, but the play needs something more than that—new stars, new lines, better lighting, fewer blackouts of secrecy, less action behind the scene, more action on stage—if it is to be a popular hit.

#### Side Glances



"Sometimes I think gas rationing isn't so bad—we don't buy any more antiques we can't carry home!"

## McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

#### BIDDER SET ONE—SHOULD BE SIX!

I am hoping after the war we will see more of Sid Fink and Elmer Babin of Cleveland, Ohio, in bridge tournaments. Not only are they two fine players, but they are two great sportsmen and have

Fink		A 10 5 3	
♠ K Q J 4	♥ A 5 3 2	♦ None	♣ 10 4 3 2
♠ J 6	♥ A K 7	♦ J 10 9 8 3	♣ 4 2
♠ 9 8 7 6	♥ K Q J 9	♦ 8 7	♣ None
♠ 8 7	♥ None	♦ A K Q 9 8 7 5	♣ 4 2
♠ None	♥ Q 8 5	Duplicate—North vul.	
South	West	North	East
3 ♠	3 ♥	Double	Pass
Pass	Redouble	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Opening—♦ K			

#### IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago  
Will Hamilton, a graduate of O. A. C., arrived home to spend the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. John Girdler and little son left for Chicago where Girdler was to attend the university during the summer months. They planned to return to La Grande in August.

Mrs. J. E. Woods and Miss Pearl Woods left for San Francisco.

#### 15 Years Ago

Evening Observer carrier boys, some 25 strong, were guests of the newspaper last night at a swimming and weiner party at Cove.

Sidney L. Thompson went to Ontario on business.

Miss Jane Stange and Miss Hester Hopkins were expected home from Eugene where they have attended the University of Oregon, both as freshmen. Miss Stange was a member of Delta Gamma sorority and Miss Hopkins of Pi Beta Phi.

10 Years Ago  
Miss Amanda Zabel, head of the English department at Eastern Oregon Normal school, returned to La Grande from a year's sabbatical leave, during which she made a tour around the world. She spent considerable time in London and Paris and on her return she spent a few months in New York, and visited Washington, D. C. and Boston.

Mrs. Frances Horstman went to California to remain for a month or six weeks.

#### Questions & Answers

Q—How many bond issues has Australia called for to finance its part in the war?

A—It recently issued its third, calling for 100,000,000 pounds. It was oversubscribed by 6,750,000 pounds.

Q—On what ship did Jack London get the color for his book, "The Mutiny of the Elsinore?"

A—The Dirigo, the first all-steel sailing ship, designed and fabricated in Britain, but built in Maine. He served as third mate.

Q—What is the meaning of the name Alexander?

A—It is from the Greek, and means "helper of men."

#### This Curious World



MOSQUITOES TAKE NO CHANCES ON YOUR BLOOD CLOTTING BEFORE THEY DRINK THEIR FILL! THEY INJECT THEIR SALIVA INTO THE VICTIM TO PREVENT COAGULATION.

Quoting Odds SEND US AN ODD TO QUOTE.  
"A FARMER SEPARATING GRAIN FROM STRAW SOMETIMES COMBINES IT."  
L. A. EVANSON,  
Wildrose, North Dakota.

AUSTRALIA'S PEACETIME POPULATION IS LESS THAN THAT OF LONDON.

NEXT: Army-Navy time.