

EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 15, 1945

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The Seventh Cross



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 for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness. — Psalms 17:15.

Sea-and-Air Dilemma

A good many people seem to be indulging in the pleasant post-war dream of a combined sea and airborne vacation — a leisurely cruise with all the pleasures of shipboard life, and then several extra days in Havana or Honolulu or wherever, because they're going to wind up the vacation with a swift flight back home — all that would be mighty nice, and quite possible.

Presumably it wouldn't make any difference to the post-war vacationer whether the same company operated both ship and plane, beyond the convenience of buying all the tickets in one office. But it makes a considerable difference to eight American steamship lines who have sought permission of the civil aeronautics board to use airplanes over their pre-war routes.

The CAB apparently hasn't warmed up to the subject. Its objection seems to be that it might be inviting a monopoly to grant the request, and that the ship lines might conspire to stifle the newer, faster means of travel.

The steamship companies, while contending that there is no law which forbids them to use steam and air — or steam and sail, if they want to — concede that there isn't much they can do

if the CAB turns them down.

The companies' side of the case was recently presented by Almon E. Roth, president of the National Federation of American Shipping. Mr. Roth says the eight lines don't ask to buy out existing rights in their present areas.

He says they would purchase their own equipment and gladly enter into competition with foreign and domestic companies over their old routes.

Mr. Roth also points out that foreign competitors, such as Britain and Sweden, are planning combined ship and air operations. And he quotes the British White Paper on post-war aviation to show that that government considers its ship lines' foreign connections, organization and good will as assets in the development of British air trade.

Most important, perhaps, is Mr. Roth's statement that American passenger lines will be at a considerable disadvantage in immediate post-war operations. This, he says, is because most of their liners were converted more drastically for war use than were their competitors', and that reconversion will be a long and expensive process.

We shall come out of the war, Mr. Roth says, with "a surplus of 25 million tons of the wrong kind of shipping" — meaning the slow Liberty ship.

So perhaps the situation needs some good hard thinking by the CAB before the final yes or no.

Ships to Russia

Word has come from London that Great Britain has transferred some ships of the Royal navy to Russia. We don't know where or how Russia will use those ships, nor do we think it necessary to speculate. The speculation doubtless can safely be left with the Japanese government.

Funny Business



"Your chickens do their scratching in my garden, so I may as well have the eggs, too!"

SO THEY SAY

Please boys, I'm not going into the movies.

—Gen. Carl A. Spaatz to photographers on arrival in New York from Europe.

Carinthia is ours and we will fight for it.

—Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia.

It (Sportsman's park, St. Louis) is the worst excuse for a major league field I ever saw.

—Phil Weintraub, New York Giants outfielder.

Next to a speedy and complete victory over Japan, a steady, well-paid job after the war is first in the minds and hearts of most Americans.

—Fred M. Vinson, war mobilization director.

Military service has not submerged the dignity of the individual. Instead he has been trained to apply initiative and imagination, the greatest pair of weapons he carries into battle.

—Gen. Omar N. Bradley.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—There is a lot more than meets the eye behind the arrest of two state department officials and one naval officer on a charge of passing out secret documents to magazine writers.

Chief factor behind it is the intense, cut-throat rivalry between two Chinese factions—Chiang Kai-shek's war lords in the south and the so-called Chinese communists (actually an agrarian party) in the north. Mixed up in all this is the action of the Chinese secret service operating undercover in the USA against anyone opposed to Chiang Kai-shek. Also involved is the prima donna temperament of a very temperamental U. S. ambassador; and finally the issue of whether the United States will get itself caught between Chinese political factions the same way it has between Polish factions.

It so happens that all three of the young Far Eastern experts arrested in the navy and state department believe ardently that the USA is backing the wrong horse in China. They feel that the northern Chinese government is much more representative of the Chinese people, has done more fighting against Japan, and that Chiang Kai-shek is chiefly an impotent prisoner of his own southern war lords.

Moreover, these three are not alone in this belief. General Stilwell emphatically believed it and was ousted from China as a result. John R. Davies, secretary of the American embassy, also believed it and was ousted by Ambassador Patrick J. Hurley after a bitter verbal battle. Also, John Service, another secretary of embassy, believed it, was fired out of China by Hurley, and has now been arrested by the state department.

Finally, U. S. military men, solely concerned with winning the war quickly, feel that the northern Chinese can be a vitally important factor in defeating Japan on the vast mainland in China.

Cowboy vs. Farmer

It was this question which led to one of the most spectacular feuds in the recent annals of American diplomacy between handsome Ambassador Hurley, the ex-Oklahoma oil man and cowpuncher, and hard-hitting Gen. Al Wedemeyer, former Nebraska farm boy, now U. S. commander in Chungking. Nothing much like it could happen any place but in China—unless it be in Washington.

When General Wedemeyer first arrived in Chungking, he and Hurley appeared to be excellent friends. They took adjoining rooms in a big Chinese mansion, with a connecting bathroom. Three times a day they ate together. Wedemeyer told Hurley he would show him all his dispatches to Wash-

ington if Hurley would do the same. Hurley promised, and complete cooperation seemed assured.

"I don't know anything about the fine points of diplomacy," General Wedemeyer said, "but I do know a square-shooter when I see one and I am sure we can work together."

Some time thereafter, Wedemeyer was inspecting the Chinese front at Kunming when he got an urgent message from his chief of staff asking him to return to Chungking. He advised Wedemeyer that a hot cable awaited him from Chief of Staff Marshall in Washington "for Wedemeyer's eyes only."

White House Heat

Wedemeyer raced back to Chungking, was flabbergasted to read a blistering cable from General Marshall bawling him out for letting members of his staff sabotage the ambassador's important diplomatic mission in China.

Marshall also enclosed a copy of a cable the ambassador had sent the White House accusing Wedemeyer's officers of double-crossing him.

Wedemeyer immediately went to Hurley and demanded an explanation. He wanted to know what the ambassador meant and why he hadn't carried out his promise to show him all telegrams and cooperate completely. Hurley turned his back.

"I am the ambassador here," he replied and walked away.

General Wedemeyer then discovered that General William Donovan, head of strategic services, was due in China and his representatives had been anxious to determine the possibilities of working with the northern Chinese against Japan. Therefore, Wedemeyer's chief of staff, Gen. Robert B. McClure, had agreed to send two U. S. officers to north China to examine north Chinese cooperation.

While they were away, Foreign Minister T. V. Soong complained to Hurley about their trip. He said this was upsetting Chungking's relation with the north Chinese. Whereupon Hurley sent a stinging cable to President Roosevelt accusing Wedemeyer's officers of under-cutting him. This was what caused Wedemeyer to get the rebuke from General Marshall.

However, Wedemeyer replied to Marshall explaining the whole situation and stating that Hurley knew in advance about the northern trip of the two U. S. officers. Marshall took the cable to the White House. Roosevelt read it, sighed wearily.

"Pat is Pat," he said, "and there's nothing you can do about him."

Side Glances



"Oh, it's too late to plan for a June wedding now, even if one of the four boys I've been writing to did happen to get home this week!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

COUNT YOUR TRICKS AFTER THEY'RE WON

I was kibitzing over at the Mayfair at a rubber game the other night and M. M. Oestreich-

tainly had learned the lesson of counting his tricks.

You can see that his only hope is to find the clubs divided so that he loses only one club trick, but even with five club tricks and two spades and a heart, that is only eight tricks. So as soon as he won the opening spade lead, without a moment's hesitation, he played a small diamond. Now, of course, if West had been smart and jumped up with the ace, he could have defeated the contract, but it is natural for second hand to play low, so the queen won the trick. Now the ace of clubs was cashed, a small club played, and the contract made.

♠ 3	♥ A 10 8 7	♦ Q 5	♣ J 8 6 5 4 2
♠ Q 9 8 4 2	♥ K 7 6 5	♦ K J 5 2	♣ 10 6 4 3
♠ 9 8	♥ A 8 7	♦ Q 10 3	♣ K
Dealer			
M. Oestreich			
♠ A J 10	♥ Q 4 3	♦ K J 9 2	♣ A 9 7
Rubber—Neither vul.			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 N. T.	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 N. T.	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening—♠ 4, ♠ 16			

er got into three no trump with today's hand. When he made the play that gave him his contract, I made the remark that he cer-

Questions & Answers

Q—What religious distinction has Lebanon, one of the seven countries in the Arab league?

A—Although the smallest, it is the most densely populated of the seven and has such a preponderance of Christians that it is sometimes called Asia's only Christian state.

Q—What is the meaning of the name Rebecca?

A—It's from the Hebrew, and means "a girl who ensnares men by her beauty."

Q—What is the number of ships built by the U. S. maritime commission since it embarked in a 10-year program in 1937?

A—Production includes 2690 Liberty ships; about 500 C-type cargo vessels; more than 500 ocean-going tankers; 360 Victory ships, and a variety of military, coastal and smaller craft.

Q—What is "altitude teeth"?

A—Pain experienced by pilots flying at high altitudes caused by the effect of great heights on metal fillings in teeth. Pain disappears on return to ground.

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago
C. E. Hackman left for San Francisco to visit the fair.

F. L. Lilly, a local hardware man, returned from a visit to Portland and Willamette valley points.

Postmaster E. E. Bragg planned to spend a month in Los Angeles and California points, expecting to bring his family home with him. They spent the winter there.

15 Years Ago
About 40 boys signed up for the Boy Scout summer camp at Anthony lake. Woodrow Darnorell and Claire Thomas of La Grande and Jack Lew of Baker were members of the junior staff to assist with the camp management.

Miss Etta Belle Kitchen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Kitchen, returned from the University of Oregon, where she will be a senior in the English department.

10 Years Ago
Mrs. Leo F. Miller and daughter, Marcia, returned from Portland, where they spent a week with Mrs. Miller's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lynch.

Mrs. Lynn Wright and daughter, Gerry Lou, who had been visiting in Washington, returned home they were at Walla Walla to attend St. Paul's school class day. Mrs. Wright also visited relatives in Colfax and spent a few days in Spokane.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Many a serviceman will return from war a stranger to his own child or children. That is a heart-breaking fact.

In her eagerness to have the children accept "Daddy," war wives should be careful not to push or hurry the children.

"Give the kids time," says Dr. Wilbur R. Miller, well-known psychiatrist. "Trying to push them into a close relationship before they come to feel close to a returned father will only result in confusing the children and making the father feel like an outsider."

Children, in the absence of a father, come to accept the mother as the answer to all of their needs and the sole dispenser of authority. They become used to turning to her alone when they are in trouble, or need help, or want grown-up approval of their accomplishments.

That becomes natural behavior to the child and the mother shouldn't try to undo it all at once.

Dr. Miller points out that given a little time children will naturally turn to their father and include him in all of their plans and enthusiasms, as they see their mother turning to him, instead of managing everything alone as she did while he was away.

He has a word of advice, too, for the returning fathers. He thinks that they should realize that in their absence and in order to keep the memory of them vivid in the child's mind, mothers have built up the fathers as heroes. Because of that, he thinks it is important that the fathers "go on being heroes" to their small sons and daughters when they come home, even though they are not inclined to want to be heroes to the outside world. The small boy who has been told what an important part his dad is playing in winning the war will feel terribly let down if his father, because he is a modest man, shrugs off the whole business.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—The Honorable, the supreme court of the United States needs revisiting every so often, if for no other reason than that it's comfortably cool inside. The court is running over-time this year because of a heavy docket and consequently the justices won't get their customary four months' vacation.

But they earn it. Trying to decide right from wrong is touchy enough in itself, but the work of the court is so serious that what it really needs is one of those old-time puritan church wardens with a long pole to keep the justices and the customers awake. If you remember your school books, there was a hard knob at one end to conk the boys with and a feather at the other end to tickle the girls with. When the sermons got too dull and the congregation showed any inclination to go to sleep on a too long-winded preacher, the warden would swing into action.

People actually do doze off at supreme court sessions and it's no wonder for the arguments are pretty hard to follow. When a spectator decides to take 40 winks, he or she usually wrinkles up the brow and slowly closes the eyes to give an impression of deep meditation. But that doesn't last long. Pretty soon, hang go their heads forward on their chests and they like to break their necks. The jerk wakes them up, and they look around slyly to see if anyone was watching. If you catch their eye they smile back coyly to hide their guilt and then scowl all the harder in mock concentration to follow what's being said.

The supreme court chamber seats around 500 but people flock in by the thousand, particularly on Mondays when decisions are handed down. An hour before the noon opening there's a line forming to get in and it winds through those spotless white mar-

ble corridors during almost the entire session. Sight-seers can take only so much of this, and then leave.

It is pretty inspiring and impressive at that, even if you don't understand all that goes on. The big, high ceilinged court chamber, the thick red carpet with its subversive pattern of fascist emblems, the 24 massive marble columns behind which hang the thick, plum-colored drapes that just miss being purple, the heavy grills, the high bas-relief sculpturing of nearly a hundred bigger than life-size figures of big-winged angels and big-chested men and naked little boys doing goodness only knows what. It's all as simple and as intricate as the law itself.

Then up front is the high polished bench which isn't a bench because there are chairs behind it—a crazy pattern of incongruous chairbacks padded to fit the individual justices—and isn't a bar, either, because it's too high for anybody's elbows.

At either end the two lower desks at which sit the four clerks—two in swallow tail coats and one in an open gate collar to lend a note of dignity. Behind them bustle the page boys in natty blue serge, almost the only sign of life in the place.

But all eyes are on the chief justice and his nine associates—the nine watch dogs of justice. Stone like a St. Bernard, Roberts like a mastiff, Black like a retriever, Reed like a French poodle, Frankfurter like a fox terrier, Douglas like an Irish, Murphy like an Airedale, Jackson like a setter, Rutledge like a shepherd. They're up there to guard your liberties and your rights if you get pushed around.

The strange thing is they fight among themselves as to what is right and what is wrong. They seldom hand down a unanimous decision. From one to four usually dissent. Yet the majority rules and the minority accepts the verdict.

This Curious World



Quiz Korner

A BIVALVE IS WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING?
 A KIND OF INVERTEBRATE
 A TROMBONE
 A TYPE OF SHELL FISH

PLANTS
 CLIMB IN FOUR WAYS?
 BY TWINNING AROUND SUPPORTS, BY TINY SUCTION CUPS, BY TENDRILS, AND BY CLINGING ROOTLETS.

ANSWER: A type of shell fish, or mollusk.
NEXT: Mountains you look down on.