

# EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer  
Frank Schiro, Publisher

MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 18, 1945

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## Another Clean-Up Job Completed



**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, behold, I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke; yet neither shalt thou mourn nor weep, neither shall thy tears run down.—Ezekiel 24:16.

### THOUGHT FOR TODAY

All things are to be hoped by a man as long as he is alive.—Seneca.

### News by 'Leaks'

The alleged acts of the navy officer, two state department employes and three writers arrested on espionage charges may be indefensible, but they scarcely can be called unusual.

Dissemination of news through "leaks" is a standard Washington practice. Probably there isn't a recognized correspondent of a reputable publication in the nation's capital who has not had access to some sort of restricted or secret information at some time since the war began.

This does not mean that there is always an actual transfer of documents, as it is charged took place in the state department case. But it is quite usual for Washington reporters to be told confidential, off-the-record news or be shown documents that cannot be published.

There are two basic reasons for this

practice. In the military field, it is because correspondents and their publishers have earned and maintained a reputation for trustworthiness.

Since censorship is sometimes overly cautious, military and other departmental officers often indulge in private and entirely discreet confidences which add to a writer's background knowledge and help him to evaluate the news released for publication. Until now, there have been no governmental charges that these confidences have been abused.

There is nothing either secret or confidential in the new that personal and political differences exist among members of various departments of government. And in those differences is found the other source of "leaks." These are passed along by officials seeking to expose or discredit a colleague or a policy, either through malice or a sense of duty. In some instances these "leaks" have performed a distinct public service.

As for the case in question, it is not clear that any military security was involved. The New York Times story of the investigation leading up to the arrests makes this interesting observation.

"It was learned that had not the text of a secret document been printed verbatim, the six arrested persons might have escaped detection. . . . If the wording had been changed, it might have been impossible to say whether an illegal disclosure had been committed."

Evidently it was the carelessness of the accused, and not the information they disclosed, that got them into trouble.

### Funny Business



"Our new boomerang model—when you throw it at cats it comes back to you!"

### SO THEY SAY

We can think, but we can't talk. I'm afraid we're very dull.—Duke of Windsor, in commenting on English election.

Some of these very leaders who see the wisdom of aiding Russia and China and South America in developing their resources cry to high heaven about projects or proposals that use American dollars for the regional development of the resources of American valleys.

—David E. Lilienthal, chairman, TVA.

One of the most certain ways of bringing about international disagreement and ultimate war is to constantly talk about war as inevitable and speculate as to when and how war is to come.

—Sen. Walter F. George, Georgia.  
I expect to be commissioner for life. That will set at rest talk of any successor for me.  
—A. B. (Happy) Chandler, baseball's high commissioner.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Only top insiders who watched the close-up of our diplomatic discussions with Russia realize how great was Harry Hopkins' achievement in Moscow.

US-USSR relations were at a most serious impasse. Not only was American public opinion aroused over the whole Polish question, but Russian generals were becoming high-handed and almost ready to throw aside allied cooperation.

This column carried a series of articles describing our relations with Russia at the time, emphasizing the dangerous deadlock and attributing it partly to red-baiting by anti-Russian diplomats, plus Churchill's policy of keeping the United States and the Soviet at sword's points, plus the state department's old-fashioned policy of note-writing instead of talking things out face-to-face.

Writing notes was the worn out method Joe Grew used when he got into hot water with Mexico and Nicaragua when he was under secretary of state in the Coolidge administration. However, as with Mexico and Nicaragua, hurling written notes at Moscow only got Stalin's back up.

### Stalin Writes Truman

For instance, here is one reply which Stalin threw back at President Truman regarding Poland just a little over a month ago, at the time Grew and Stettinius were drafting notes for Truman to send Stalin:

"I am ready to fulfill your request to reach a harmonious solution, but you demand too much of me. In other words, you demand that I renounce the interests of security of the Soviet Union. However, I cannot turn against my own country.

"In my opinion there is one way out of this situation: adopt the Yugoslav example as a pattern for Poland. I believe that this would allow us to come to a harmonious solution."

This was very strong diplomatic language. When the head of a nation says he will not turn against his own country it means that he won't budge another inch. Also, the Yugoslav pattern was not much of a compromise, since the state department had already complained to Stalin about this situation and alleged Russian failure to carry out the Yalta agreement in Yugoslavia.

It was at this tightly deadlocked moment that Harry Hopkins finally advised Truman

that the thing to do was stop writing notes and have someone put his feet under the same table with Stalin and talk things out instead.

Chief trouble with our older diplomats, and with Ed Stettinius, who takes his cues from them, is that they don't realize this is the day of airplanes, not sailing ships. Diplomatic note-writing dates from the horse-and-buggy days of diplomacy when it took six weeks to cross the Atlantic and we could not send ambassadors speedily to talk things out face-to-face. Now we can get an ambassador to Moscow in one day.

Soviet policy is seldom uniform, and while Polish relations are much improved, a very serious situation confronts US-USSR relations in Bulgaria.

### McKellar's Revenge

Although Sen. Kenneth McKellar's 29 years in the senate made him automatic choice as president of that body, it still isn't enough to give him everything he wants. In fact, he's having considerable difficulty getting a full-scale investigation of the purchase of the Nashville Tennessean, even though it is being pushed by McKellar's great pal, Nevada's Pat McCarran, chairman of the senate judiciary committee.

The Nashville Tennessean has been a leader in the fight against the Tennessee poll tax and the powerful political machine headed by McKellar's political sponsor, Boss Ed Crump. So McKellar is out to persecute the paper by investigating its original purchase.

The investigation, of course, is supposed to be made by the "very impartial" senate judiciary committee. But Sen. Scott Lucas of Illinois had some idea of who was masterminding the project, and, as chairman of the audit and control committee, he refused to grant the \$5,000 requested for the investigation. Instead, he allowed only \$3,000. McCarran has now returned to Washington after his long absence in the west and colleagues are wondering what his next move will be in this back-scratching job for brother McKellar.

Some of Luca's colleagues are wondering why he OK'd even this much money, and why the senate should infringe on the freedom of the press by an investigation of this kind.

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Servicemen, looking on their old lives from a great distance and in the light of new experiences, have had an opportunity to do some evaluating. And some of them have entirely new ideas about how they want to live and what they want out of life.

They may be very new ideas, too. But the wife who has sat at home telling herself that some day "everything will be exactly as it was" may resent any changes her husband wants to make in their way of living.

"Many of the men in service have had a chance to develop their whole personalities, while the women who have sat at home waiting for them have not," is the way Dr. Wilbur R. Miller, one of the middle west's best known psychiatrists, sums up this problem.

However, he points out that it need not be a problem at all—if the wife reacts to the

situation in the right way.

If she, because her husband has developed more in the war years than she has, becomes jealous and resentful—then she will hold out against any new ideas he may bring home with him about how their lives should be lived.

But if she takes the attitude that "He's got something that he can teach me and that will help us both to have richer, fuller lives" and accepts rather than rejects his ideas—the marriage won't suffer.

One thing she must understand is her husband's new-found need for the companionship of other men. In the army he has made closer friendships with men than he, perhaps, ever had before. Friendship with men, of necessity, had to take the place of family life. Consequently he may need masculine companionship for quite a while after he comes home.

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—The big argument over whether the United States should be represented in post-war international aviation by one big joint "chosen instrument" company or a number of competing companies operating under principles of "freedom of the air" has been lost sight of for a couple of months, but behind the scenes there has been a good bit of intricate maneuvering.

Newest chapter in the state department-senate foreign relations committee impasse over international air policy has just been introduced by Mississippi Senator Theodore Bilbo, of all people. Bilbo isn't a member of the foreign relations committee, but he is a member of the commerce committee which also has a fist in this stew. Bilbo's action in making public a letter from acting Secretary of State Joseph Grew, defending the state department's right to take the United States into international aviation agreements through executive order, without senate ratification, may again bring to a boil this dish which has been simmering on the back of the stove for so long a time.

While the senate has been unable to make up its mind and determine a policy, the state department's "freedom of the air" program mapped at the Chicago international civil aviation conference last fall has been moving right ahead. Thirty nations—four more than the necessary 26—have already ratified the Chicago agreements and Canada is preparing to issue invitations for a first meeting of the provisional organization which will regulate international air commerce until a permanent organization can take over within the next three years. Invitations will probably be for an August meeting in Montreal, that apparently being the only city with enough vacant office space to house an organization of this size.

In the meantime, the US civil aeronautics board, meeting with President Truman, is supposed to have laid on his desk a recommendation that north Atlantic flying rights be given to three competing companies—Pan American, Transcontinental, Western and American export or its American airlines controlled successor.

The president may turn down the CAB

recommendations. But since they are believed to have been made with strong representations as to urgency, approval by the White House would confront the supporters of the jointly-owned company idea—principally Pan American and United Airlines—with opposition as good as established. The only thing to stop such a development would be through prompt action in congress. The passage of new laws defining a different policy. With congress now ready to go home for the summer, any such achievement would be difficult, to say the least.

Background maneuvering which brought out the letter from Grew to Bilbo, is interesting. About a month ago the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, stirred up by advocates of the one big airline policy, issued a statement that the executive agreements on international aviation promulgated by President Roosevelt, were illegal, should be withdrawn and submitted to the senate for ratification.

Using this as a springboard, Senator Bilbo was moved to take the AFL statement, send it to the state department and ask in effect, "what's all this about?"

This was just the opportunity the state department had been waiting for. Its side of the argument was locked up in off-the-record testimony before the senate foreign relations committee, but the opposition was spreading disapproval of state department policy wherever possible.

Grew's reply to the Bilbo inquiry is therefore a strong defense of state departments right to make the executive agreements adopted to Chicago on interim organization and freedom of the air policies.

The navy which is successfully fighting this war is a civilian navy—Navy Secretary James V. Forrestal, to Annapolis graduating class.

A nation that believes in suicide bombs or hara-kiri cannot be considered pious or religious.—Patriarch Alexi of Russian Orthodox Church.

### Side Glances



"Margie didn't read us this part of her fiance's letter — 'your mother is as bossy as our top sergeant, but your dad told me how to handle her!'"

### McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

#### TREAT CARDS MEAN AND YOU'LL RUE IT

I shuddered the other day when I saw this hand messed up. You know, they often say that if you treat the cards mean, they will treat you mean.

When I saw this hand played, the opening lead was won with the king of spades. You can now see that if the declarer can guess the diamond, he is going to be

|              |           |            |              |
|--------------|-----------|------------|--------------|
| ♠ Q 7 3      | ♥ 7 5 2   | ♦ K 7 4 3  | ♣ 8 6 3      |
| ♠ J 10 9 6 2 | ♥ A 8 5 4 | ♦ A 9 5 2  | ♣ K J 10 7 4 |
| ♠ Q 10 3     | ♥ K 9 8 4 | ♦ A K      | ♣ A J 8      |
| ♠ Q 6 5 2    | ♥ 8       | ♦ A J 10 9 | ♣ A 9 5 2    |
| ♠ Q          | ♥ 8       | ♦ A 9 5 2  | ♣ A 9 5 2    |

Rubber—Both vul.  
South West North East  
2 N T Pass 3 N T Pass  
Opening—♠ J.

mond and the king of spades had him blocked out from making the queen. In other words, he had counted to nine, but failed to make sure he had cashed all nine tricks.

### IN FORMER YEARS

#### 30 Years Ago

Close to half hundred automobiles, a dozen of them gorgeously decorated, decorated side cars, motorcycle brigades and bicycle sections, the fire department, heavy trucks and other manner of self-propelled vehicles passed through an avenue of automobiles closely parked for a distance of four blocks, and was witnessed by several thousand people this morning. The parade is a new venture but the initial performance was a credit to the city in connection with the motorcycle race to be held this afternoon.

#### 15 Years Ago

Miss Judy Moore, Miss Lula Grace Allen and Harold Herr drove to Wallowa Lake and returned Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Doyle Zimmerman, Mrs. J. R. Llewellyn and small son, Jack, drove home from Portland. Mrs. Zimmerman has been there for the past week visiting friends. Edwin Kirby, son of Dr. and Mrs. E. B. Kirby, has returned home from the University of Oregon. Elmo Lindholm of Silverton, is visiting at the Kirby home and expects to spend the summer here. Both are members of Alpha Epsilon, national fraternity.

#### 10 Years Ago

Miss Marjorie Condit, who now makes her home in San Francisco, arrived here last evening for a two weeks vacation. She will spend the fortnight as a guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Condit. Nylie Lewis of La Grande who taught one of the smaller schools in Baker county last year, has been elected to the faculty of junior high school at Baker for next year. He will teach mathematics and direct some extra-curricular activities.

### This Curious World



THE AMERICAN ELK IS A WAPITI, OUR MOUNTAIN GOAT IS AN ANTELOPE, OUR BUFFALO IS A BISON AND THE CARIBOU IS A REINDEER.



ANSWER: Santa Fe, New Mexico. Cheyenne, Wyoming, also, is a higher-altitude capital than Denver.

NEXT: Our jittery old globe.