

### Six of One, Half Dozen of the Other



WAR

PEACE



**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

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.—John 15:12.

#### THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Men have less lively perception of good than of evil.—Livy.

#### Wrong Actor

Senator Ray Willis of Indiana was quoted the other day as saying that the OPA, instead of "holding the price line," is "shrinking the waistline."

That isn't a bad summing up of the congressional case against the price agency. In fact, it's a pretty neat example of the senatorial epigram, which occasionally is on the ponderous side. There's only one trouble, as we see it. Senator Willis wasn't the right man to utter it.

The gentleman from Indiana is a poor advertisement of OPA's villainous ineptitude. He has one of the least shrunken-looking waistlines in the senate. And while his accusation may be true, we fear that his solid presence robs it of some persuasiveness.

So we hope the next time Mr. Willis conceives a similar sally, he will seek out some senatorial Cassius with a lean and hungry look to deliver it. Mr. Cap-

per of Kansas, for instance, could talk convincingly of shrinking waistlines. So could Mr. Ball of Minnesota. But Mr. Willis may have defeated his purpose by his performance. The script was good, but the casting was all wrong.

#### Policing Lend-Lease

On the day that the foreign economic administration announced a sharp curtailment in the lend-lease program to France, the army newspaper Stars and Stripes reported that French flyers in American lend-leased bombers had carried out obliterating raids on Arab villages in Algeria.

Apparently there was no connection between the two announcements. Nevertheless, it is good to know that usage of lend-lease materials is now being scrutinized closely. With Germany beaten, lend-lease comes under the heading of expedient altruism. It is right that this country should know its ultimate use.

France's disheartening use of arms contributed to the common defense should serve to sharpen the vigilance of lend-lease authorities.

#### But No Nylons

A recent Soviet development, while scarcely in the Marx-Lenin tradition, will, we predict, advance the popularity and enhance the attractiveness of communism in the eyes of Americans—particularly American women.

A Moscow factory has started manufacturing women's high-grade silk stockings.

#### SO THEY SAY

I understand that in another two or three weeks you might as well stay home unless you hold a No. 2 airplane priority.  
 —Transportation Director J. Monroe Johnson.

My experience as chief executive of governmental offices has taught me that there is no limit to the amount of money that public officials are capable of spending.  
 —Gov. Frank Lausche, Ohio.

It would be futile for us to seek repayment for the total cost of our war effort.  
 —Ambassador Edwin W. Pauley, President Truman's personal representative on allied reparations committee.

We must never forget for an instant that we're still at war with Japan and must beat her. That done, I see no problems that the American people cannot lick.  
 —Lt. Gen. William S. Knudsen, after return to civilian life.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Harry Truman has now been president of the United States for a little over two months—two of the most historic months in the nation's history. These two months are sufficient to get a fairly accurate gauge of how the new president is going to function for the rest of his term.

On the surface there is a new atmosphere in the White House when you walk into it these days. If, for instance, you drop in on White House Secretary Charlie Ross, he is cordial, courteous, but brief. There is no invitation to sit down and gossip. This businesslike atmosphere prevails throughout the entire White House staff.

If you go on in to see Ross's boss, you get in on time. There are few waits. And the little man on the other side of the big broad shiny desk listens intently. He wants to hear what his visitors have to say. There are two definite innovations.

Gone are the days when big shots calling on Roosevelt would fret and fume during an hour's wait, then, after spending half an hour with him, go out and brag that they had spent an hour and a half "at the White House." With Truman you are allotted a certain number of minutes, and he holds to that schedule.

Moreover, you can make the most of your allotted time. Truman is anxious to listen. Roosevelt on the other hand, did most of the talking himself. Visitors had to inter-rupte forcefully to put across their ideas.

**Good Domestic Administrator**  
 Truman gives the impression of having a firm grasp on all domestic problems. He knows them thoroughly—undoubtedly better than Franklin Roosevelt during his latter years, when he was devoting all his time to the war.

One of Truman's frequent replies to callers when they urge sanction on some special idea is:

"I realize that. But it takes time to do all these things, and seldom have so many important things confronted us all at one time. I'll get around to that just as soon as I can."

One thing that worries him most is our foreign affairs. The new president frankly realizes it is his main weakness. He does not have Roosevelt's international background, therefore has to rely almost wholly on his diplomats.

Truman's method of running the government is that of picking good men and giving them free rein. This is a good system, and we could have had more of it in the past. But it breaks down when the president is not sure he can rely on the men picked to perform the most important job we now face—building up the peace after the war. Truman told Stettinius, for in-

stance, that he was to be his own boss at San Francisco. But he found that Stettinius called him on the phone once or twice a day to get his approval of almost every decision.

#### Fires His Friends

Unlike Roosevelt, Truman does not hesitate to fire a man who doesn't produce. He let Leonard Reinsch go back to his radio job in Atlanta the day after he handled himself badly in a press conference. He transferred Edward R. McKim, his administrative assistant, after it became known that the genial and likeable McKim seemed too engrossed in Mrs. "Hope Diamond" McLean's dinner parties and the social whirl of Washington.

Politicos on Capitol Hill credit Truman with one political error so far—his letter to the house rules committee asking it to vote out the fair employment practices bill, bitterly opposed by southern legislators. Writing a letter of this kind to a congressional committee went further than most Roosevelt attempts to influence congress, and members of the rules committee resented it.

However, if Truman erred politically, he did not err when it came to carrying out party pledges. He put himself squarely behind a promise he made during the campaign, while Republican congressional leaders, having made a similar pledge, wretched.

Final impression you get of Truman during this trial heat is that he has been working under tremendous pressure, is tired and needs the rest he will now enjoy with his old friend, Governor Mon Wallgren, in Olympia, Wash. All of which makes it even more miraculous that Franklin Roosevelt held out physically as long as he did.

#### Senators Ruled Norway

Less than three weeks ago, young Senator Hugh Mitchell of Washington had the unique distinction of being the highest civil authority in Norway. "Opposition leader" of Norway was Michigan's Republican Senator Homer Ferguson.

The two senators, arriving in Norway to investigate surplus property for the head committee, drove from their dock to Oslo's famed Hotel Bristol. All along the way they were astonished to see fully armed Nazi soldiers strolling about freely. Several hundred thousand armed Nazis they discovered, were still in Norway with no one to accept their surrender.

The Norwegian government was due to return shortly, and until their arrival, Senator Mitchell—as a Democratic senator of a government to which Germany had surrendered—was the highest civil official there. Since Norwegian party lines are not yet fully redrawn, Ferguson, a Republican, was entitled to be called the "opposition leader."

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

There may be a tip in this little story for you, Mrs. America.

When asked if she would go back to work for the Trumans at their summer White House in Missouri, the Negro cook who had worked for them for 18 years, thinks they are fine people and is mighty proud of them, answered, "I don't know... They've got an old fashioned ice box and I don't suppose they'll ever get an electric refrigerator."

So, if even the distinction of working for the president's family isn't enough to make a cook willing to put up with a piece of kitchen equipment she doesn't like—the rest of us had better do most of our post-war planning around the kitchen—instead of the living room.

What does it matter to a maid how important a family is socially if their kitchen isn't

an easy place to work in?

And what difference does it make that the living room is a modern decorator's dream—if the kitchen hasn't been renovated in 20 years?

What does the cook care about the big car the family drive, if she has to walk her legs off getting a meal on the table?

There is one fact, though, that makes it seem that women in the future will pay more attention to the convenience of their kitchens than they did in the days when household help was plentiful.

Most housewives have become well acquainted with their own kitchens during the war years. They know now all the little inconveniences—and how annoying they can be. So they'll be likely to do something about them as soon as they can.

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Biggest difference between Truman and Roosevelt, say some of the recent official business callers at the White House, is that Truman doesn't do all the talking, listens to what his visitors have to say. Another marked difference is that officials who used to pass the buck on their hottest problems, laying them on Roosevelt's desk for settlement, are now told in effect that they were hired as cooks, not as waiters, so they should start doing their own cooking.

World war I general of the armies, John J. Pershing, was invited to the White House ceremonies in honor of world war II general of the armies, Dwight D. Eisenhower, but had to decline. His health is considered good for his age — he will be 65 in September—but he is not considered strong enough to undergo public functions. Even General George S. Patton did not see Pershing when "Old Blood and Guts" went to visit the wounded at Walter Reed hospital, where "Black Jack" now lives simply in small quarters. In the last war, Eisenhower and Patton were just a couple of other majors in the infant tank corps.

Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes held hearings the other day on establishment of the Parker River national wildlife refuge in Massachusetts, and quite a delegation of New England blue ribbons came down to protest. One claimed his ancestors had hunted the land for 200 years and another said his ancestor had hunted it for 300 years. Finally one witness declared he was opposed to the whole game sanctuary idea because his forefather had been on this land for 1,000 years. That stopped Ickes cold.

"You don't understand, Sir," the witness explained, "I'm an Indian."  
 Ickes snorted. "If your ancestors were able to keep the ancestors of these other persons present from taking the land away all this

time, you certainly deserve special consideration."

Ickes is head of the office of Indian affairs, as well as the fish and wildlife service.

General Omar N. Bradley got lost in the veterans building maze the other day, and so got a foretaste of what's in store for him when he returns to Washington to take over as veterans administrator. Just after he got his appointment, Bradley said he wanted to walk through the veterans' building alone, to size things up. But when he had been gone an hour, friends phoned the building and started guards on a search. Twenty minutes later they found him wandering in a distant corridor, apparently too embarrassed to ask his way out. General Bradley is understood to have accepted the veterans' job only on condition that it would be a temporary assignment. After the bureau is modernized, Bradley wants to go back to active service. He is now in Europe turning over his command, and won't return to Washington for another 60 days or so.

Brigadier General B. M. Bryan, jr., assistant to the provost marshal general in charge of German prisoners of war in the United States, tells how the first nazis arriving at a southern camp accused the guards of having the same cars driven up and down the road just to impress the prisoners with the fact that everyone in this country owned an automobile. The camp was near a war plant, and the PW's couldn't otherwise explain why there should be so many cars on the road at shift changing time. "With typical teutonic thoroughness," says General Bryan "they check the license plates. When they did realize that all were different finally admitted everyone in this country did own a car and that we were telling them the truth."

### Side Glances



"Her face is so free from strain—you'd never guess she was keeping a maid!"

## McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

#### TRICK TO PLAYING NINE-TEN COMBO

Helen Kelly, who was one of the co-chairmen of our national tournament at Atlantic City last year, wrote me an interesting letter telling me that her son, Jack Kelly III, who is only 16 years of age, came in second recently playing with James Reilly, jr., a man of 60.

You know, the modern youngster is rather optimistic and I

♠ 53	♠ Q 10 9 8 4	♠ K 5 2	♠ K 10 3
♠ Q 7 5 4 2	♠ N	♠ 10 9 8	♠ J 8
♥ K 5 3	W	♥ J 8	♥ 10 8 6 4
♦ J 7	S	♦ 3	♦ 7 6 2
♣ 8 5	E	♣ Dealer	
		♠ A K J	
		♥ A 7 2	
		♦ A Q 9	
		♣ A J 9 4	

Duplicate—Neither vul.  
 South West North East  
 3 N T Pass 4 ♠ Pass  
 5 ♥ Pass 5 N T Pass  
 6 N T Pass Pass Pass  
 Opening—4 ♠ 20

think you will have to grant that Kelly's opening bid of three no trump displayed a fair amount of optimism. However, I like the way he made the contract after he got into six no trump. He decided that he was going to play the queen over the jack, so he led a small club and finessed dummy's ten spot. When it held he came back with the queen of hearts. Now, this is the proper play of this combination of cards

#### Questions & Answers

Q—What is so unusual about the flag of New York City?

A—Colors are Dutch—blue, white and orange in perpendicular bars, the same which floated over Manhattan more than 300 years ago.

Q—How does Iran rank as an oil-producing nation?

A—In 1940 it ranked fourth. Its wells average 210,000 barrels a day.

Q—What is the origin of the name Gordon?

A—From the Gaelic and Welsh, meaning a fine man or a strong man.

when holding the ten, nine.

Finesse of the queen lost to the king and West returned another spade. Young Kelly won this with the ace, and led the jack of clubs. West covered with the queen and dummy's king won the trick. Now came the ten of hearts. East's singleton jack covered. Declarer won with the ace and now, of course, had the balance of the tricks.

## IN FORMER YEARS

#### 30 Years Ago

Joe Wolters of Milwaukee, Wis., winner of the Phoenix motorcycle race, defeated Otto Walker, international long-distance motorcyclist of Milwaukee, on the Mt. Glen speedway. A large crowd of Union county residents, and many visitors witnessed the event.

A team, belonging to one of the local garbage collectors, became frightened and ran down Spring street and around the corner of Sixth to Penn avenue where they ran into a telephone pole, throwing one of the horses and demolishing the wagon.

#### 15 Years Ago

Dr. Ray F. Murphy returned from Portland where he was re-elected president of the state board of dental examiners.

Herbert Evans, principal of the Riveria school, left for Portland, to attend summer school. He was accompanied by Mrs. Evans and their baby.

Mrs. Julius Roesch left with a motor caravan for Pocatello, Idaho to attend a hotel convention.

#### 10 Years Ago

Miss Grace Scully went to Olympia to take a two-week course of training for swimming instructors.

Mrs. Ed Jasper and children, Don, Edna, Jenn and Mary, returned to their home in the Valeria district after having lived in La Grande during the school year.

Mr. and Mrs. Miles Woodell have returned to their home in the Dry Creek neighborhood from McMinnville where they represented the Pleasant Grove grange at the 1935 meeting of the state grange.

### This Curious World

**EARTHQUAKES OCCUR SOMEWHERE AROUND THE GLOBE AT THE RATE OF ABOUT 8,000 A YEAR.**

COPY, 1945 BY NEA SERVICE, INC. T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

**Quoting Odds**

NOT ALL POPULAR SONGS ARE POPULAR! Says MRS. DONIS DUNHAM, Blackie's, O'Connell.

IF A MAN AND WIFE HAD SIX CHILDREN THEY COULD GIVE THE EARTH ITS PRESENT POPULATION IN 19 GENERATIONS, WITH NO COUPLE HAVING MORE THAN SIX OFFSPRING.

### Funny Business



"He didn't finish the chapter quick enough, sir!"