

EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

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Variety Is the Spice of Life—and Conferences

AFTER A STEADY DIET OF THIS—



OH, WHAT A RELIEF!



EVENING OBSERVER'S PROGRESS PROGRAM

IRRIGATION—Complete the Grande Ronde Valley irrigation project.
LA GRANDE — A city of 10,000 — Extend the city limits.

The Big Three's New Member

A few months ago millions of Americans were scoffing at the prospect of Thomas E. Dewey sitting down at the same conference table with Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin. Cartoonists drew the New York governor in knickerbockers and Eton collar — a little boy seeking a place among the seats of the mighty.

At that time there were no cartoons of Harry S. Truman at the conference table. No one even speculated on how he might look or conduct himself in the presence of the renowned leaders of our two great allies. In the hot partisanship of the moment, he was ignored or forgotten.

Ignored or forgotten, too, was the inexorable mortality which has elevated Harry S. Truman to the presidency and brought him the opportunity for personal greatness inherent in that great office. But now he is about to take the center of the world's stage at that very conference table in one of contemporary history's most fateful and dramatic roles.

We believe that Mr. Truman will do well. And we also believe that that confidence is shared by most of the people of this country. He will not be another Roosevelt, but that is no disparagement.

For, if he presents himself to Prime

Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin as he has to the American people in his few weeks as president, Mr. Truman will make no personal attempt to be anything more than himself — a man who, in looks and speech and background, resembles millions of his fellow countrymen, a man who probably represents what we mean by "typically American" better than anyone who has sat in the White House in the last half century.

But it may safely be assumed that Mr. Truman's preparation for this momentous conference goes far beyond the typical and average. In the midst of his other heavy duties he has worked assiduously to acquaint himself with the details of Mr. Roosevelt's association with the Russian and British leaders on which so much of our foreign policy is based.

He has sought advice from the likeliest sources. And, by a wise choice of emissaries and a perceptive timing of his decisions, he has ridden out what might have been a major diplomatic crisis. As a result, he approaches the coming meeting with a much happier prospect of fruitful results than seemed possible even a fortnight ago.

It is important that Mr. Churchill and Mr. Stalin like Mr. Truman, and we rather believe they will. We believe that they will find in him the cordiality, patience, directness of approach and amenability to suggestion that most of us flatteringly consider characteristic of the American spirit.

They will also find that Mr. Truman is as truly a member of the "Big Three" as Mr. Roosevelt was, for he will be representing the United States and speaking for its people. Judging from his performance to date, we think that he will speak intelligently and courageously for them, for freedom, and for peace.

Funny Business



"Hey about borrowing some money from you boys? I'm bankrupt!"

SO THEY SAY

It was evident that many governments were controlling the press politically under the guise of war security.

—Report of American society of newspaper editors on foreign investigation of their group.

We should always be in a constant state of preparedness, for we have never found a way to stop war, although I hope we do.

—Gen. George S. Patton.

It's like trying to eliminate cockroaches from a stubborn closet—we have regained only seven per cent of the territory the Japs took. If the war should stop now, the Japs would be the winners.

—Capt. Robert C. Siler, Cincinnati, Ohio.

I cannot see how, when they (the Japanese) are so tenacious individually, we can expect their mass morale to crack.

—Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Plenty of publicity was given to the fact that the Russians had barred the allies from entering the city of Vienna, but it was kept very hush-hush when an Anglo-American-French mission finally did enter Vienna on June 3.

Under the Yalta agreement, the United States and Britain were supposed to send military missions into Vienna, but during the height of the Polish trouble, when US-USSR relations were strained, the Russians had taken all the Viennese airports and wouldn't let us land.

When the western allies finally arrived in Vienna on June 3, things didn't go too well. There were some unpleasant differences with the Soviet commander as to whether they could inspect all the city. He contended that the Yalta agreement permitted the western allies access only to the city of Vienna, which includes one airport.

The western allies, on the other hand, contended that Yalta permitted them access to "Vienna Graub" or greater Vienna including the region around the city proper and all airports.

In the end, the Russians yielded, permitting the western allies to inspect everything. The French-British-American military found that the Russians were acting reasonably in Austria, and it has now been agreed that the Anglo-American occupation will extend to the west bank of the Danube, while the Russian occupation will control the east bank.

The western allies' representatives left Vienna June 11 to report to SHAEF. It looks as if another hurdle in relations with Russia had been ironed out. A bad situation is still boiling in Bulgaria, however.

Baseball and United Nations

In San Francisco, a delegation of Philadelphians called on Australia's external affairs minister Herbert Evatt to ask that the City of Brotherly Love founded by William Penn become the seat of the United Nations in the future.

Dr. Evatt listened carefully. Then he replied:

"I can't vote for Philadelphia until the Phillies get out of the cellar. I'm afraid it would give the United Nations a defeatist attitude if both Philadelphia baseball teams were at the bottom of their leagues."

Capital Chaff

Henry Kaiser, the big boat-builder, is getting together with Colorado Iron and Fuel to take over the government-owned steel plant at Geneva, Utah. U. S. Steel and Wall Street have discouraged the project, contending steel can't be made economically on the west coast. However, Kaiser is determined to try, believes the west is potentially one of the great markets of the world and can supply its own goods. . . . New Hampshire's one-time isolationist Senator Tobey has got religion. He is so anxious to avoid another war that he has become one of the most ardent advocates of international cooperation. Tobey even blasted (indirectly) his old friend and colleague, ex-Senator Danaher of Connecticut, who, while an executive of the Republican national committee, used his position as ex-senator to go on the senate floor and lobby against the reciprocal trade agreements act. . . . A strong move is underway to make ex-Senator Guy Gillette of Iowa, retiring head of the surplus war property board, the new undersecretary of state. Gillette has his ear close to the ground of American public opinion, especially midwest opinion, which the state department sometimes ignores.

President Truman's Pledges

President Truman apparently is adopting the unique policy of not forgetting campaign pledges. The other day he stuck his neck out regarding the fair employment practices act (despite its unpopularity in the south) by urging the rules committee to report the bill out and let congress vote on it.

Following this, he had an interesting conversation with Generoso Pope, Italian-American publisher in New York. Pope had come to ask that American policy in Italy give more encouragement to democratic ideas, and not let the Italian people be subject to the British policy of restoring the monarchy or the Russian policy of communism. Pope pointed out that one of the best ways of preventing these political extremes was to help the Italian people out in their desperate plight, and to let them have some of the food and supplies originally imported for the U. S. and allied armies, but now surplus.

After listening carefully, President Truman told Pope:

"I made a speech about that in the last campaign. I'll do my best to carry those ideas out."



"These old letters sure are hot stuff—when Pop was courting Mom! he wasn't making as much money as I am mowing lawns!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

HAZEN DEFENDS HIS OPENING TWO BID

I was talking to Lee Hazen the other day about the weak opening two bid. He has used it for a long time, but claims its only advantage is its deception. In other words, as soon as good opponents get used to competing against the weak two bid, there is not much of a problem. How-

queen of spades. Now, what should he play? He knows that North and East are both out of spades. Well, if he leads anything but that queen of spades, East is going to make the contract. You will find when you run out all the clubs that South cannot hold his three diamonds to the queen and the queen of Spades, while North will get squeezed with hearts and diamonds.

We gave the hand to several experts, just showing them the South hand and the dummy and it was surprising the number that did not lead the third spade.

Hand diagram showing cards for South, West, North, and East. Dealer is South. Cards include ♠ 94, ♥ Q J 10 8 5 3, ♦ J 10 8 2, ♣ 2, ♠ J 6 5, ♥ K 9 6, ♦ K 9 6, ♣ K Q 7 3, ♠ A K Q 10 7 2, ♥ 7 2, ♦ Q 4 3, ♣ 6 5. Duplicate—E-W vul. South 2, West 4, North 3, East 5. Opening—♠ K. 23

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago

Prof. F. L. Griffen of O. A. C. was in the city to spend a week and conducting canning demonstrations with County Farm Experiment Station Claude C. Cate.

Olaf Groupe, an O-W office employee, spent the day in Portland visiting friends.

A. S. Geddes was in the city visiting former neighbors. He reported the best business prosperous in and about Burleigh, Idaho, the city to which the La Grande sugar beet factory was moved.

15 Years Ago

State Sen. Colon R. Eberhard was the speaker at the Lions club luncheon, explaining certain ways and means of selecting a republican nominee for governor to succeed the late Senator George W. Joseph.

Among other large picnics of the season was that of the Red and White stores in celebration of the first year in this district. More than 300 owners, employees and their wives attended.

10 Years Ago

Mrs. M. M. Christensen and her daughter, Billie, went to Idaho and Utah to visit relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Peterson and their children, Maxine and Billy, returned from a trip to Portland and Seattle.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Kiddle and their son, Clyde Jr., returned from a two-week vacation trip to San Diego, Calif. They also visited their daughter, Miss Maravene Kiddle, in Portland.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

"Women Buying 69 Per Cent of Nation's Cigarettes," says a headline.

And lest men—who are quick to blame all of the world's ills on women—quickly assume that women are smoking more than their share of the country's cigarettes, we had better point out that:

Many a sweet old lady who never bought cigarettes before in her life is standing in cigarette lines today to buy a pack for a son or favorite nephew.

And many a working girl chases around on her lunch hour trying to find cigarettes for a husband whose job isn't quite so handy to drug stores.

Then there are the housewives with a good standing at their favorite grocery store who have better luck getting an under-the-counter pack of cigarettes with each grocery order than their husbands have at their fa-

vorite hang-outs.

And there are the hostesses who shop around for cigarettes before a party because it is so pleasant to hear guests exclaim, "You don't mean you're passing cigarettes around!"

There are also the mothers, wives, and sweethearts who buy cigarettes to stick in overseas packages, along with candy and cookies.

Not that women aren't smoking their share of the scarce and precious article. Plenty of them are standing in line for themselves, of course.

But women don't smoke all the cigarettes they buy today—any more than they eat all the meat they wheedle out of their butchers. They are just more resigned to shopping around than are men. Fact is, they get a kick out of buying scarce articles—whether for their own use or for someone else's gratitude.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—If he doesn't get a couple of days off pretty soon, says General of the Armies Dwight D. Eisenhower, there's going to be a rebellion.

If anybody deserves a vacation it is General Ike. But when it is over and he goes back to Germany he faces another tough job in putting that ex-Nazi country in its proper place and making sure it will stay there. About that job the general talked turkey at a press conference during his day in Washington.

General Eisenhower admits at the outset that he doesn't know the German people well, though he has studied and used every facility he could to know them better. This in itself is a hopeful sign, for when a man admits he doesn't know all the answers he is making an intelligent approach to his job and not one dictated by emotional and blind prejudices.

If any man is entitled to hate the Germans and want to see them crushed ruthlessly, it is Eisenhower.

For the members of the 12th S. S. Korps, who killed captured American prisoners in cold blood during the battle of the Bulge, he will show no mercy.

He regards every Nazi storm trooper a potential war criminal—at least putting the burden of proof of innocence on the accused.

He would utterly destroy the German general staff. How, he is not sure. But he mentions the possibility of rounding up every German officer with general staff training, segregating the whole lot of them, destroying all the archives.

He is convinced the Germans deliberately starved American prisoners.

The first German murder factory he saw made him madder than he has ever been in his life.

And yet he says simply, "peace can't be built on hate."

He divides the German problem into two phases.

First is the emergency problem. The cities of Germany are destroyed beyond everything he has ever seen. Berlin is London

multiplied 100 times. Transportation is dislocated. The Germans face actual starvation.

The job is to get the German local communities started again. To screen the people. To prepare a case history on every one. To find the anti-Nazis or the neutrals and make them responsible for policing the country and getting labor started on the farms.

The problem of getting displaced persons back to their homelands is well along. Already two million French and Russian slave laborers have been liberated and 200,000 British and Americans held as prisoners of war have been freed.

This highly necessary screening of every individual is the reason behind General Eisenhower's order that American soldiers must not be permitted to fraternize with the German people. It must continue in force, he says, until every last element of Nazism is eliminated. How long this will require he cannot estimate. But he is determined to find every war criminal and not let a single one escape.

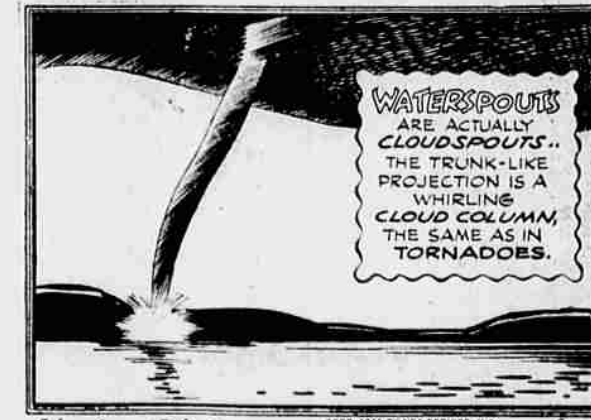
"This is the only way," he says, "to show the German people that crime does not pay."

The second phase of General Eisenhower's new job is the long-range problem of Germany's future. This is the political problem where policy is determined by statesmen and where men like Eisenhower become the mere executors of their governments. This is the period where the mistakes can be made.

General Eisenhower will probably have more free advice on this phase of his job than he had from all the arm chair strategists who tried to tell him how to win the fighting war. But he won the fighting war in spite of all the long-range experting from the amateurs at home. Acting as he talked in Washington, he can be trusted with full authority on the post-war job in Germany if his hands are not tied and his style is not cramped by the politicians.

How long his new job will last, how long an American army of occupation must remain in Germany, he does not know.

This Curious World



ANSWER: Yes, you have the right to reach over and take the fruit. NEXT: How often does your heart beat in a year?