

# EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

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That Should Keep Him Happy for a While



### 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

If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar; for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?—John 4:20.

### THOUGHT FOR TODAY

I worked with patience which means almost power.—E. B. Browning.

### Another Job for Eisenhower

There will probably be little swivel chair relaxation for General Eisenhower when he returns to Germany. For present reports from there suggest that a trouble-shooting job is to be done, and done quickly.

Correspondents have sent back stories from various German communities in the American zone of occupation which indicate at least isolated instances of poor administration by military government. Confusion and mistakes are inevitable, of course, and the task of finding non-Nazi to help handle German rehabilitation must be enormous.

And yet one reads that in one town the Americans have continued the Nazi food distribution system and are still feeding the surviving Jews on half rations, and that in another the city council, after a month of fruitless complaints, has had to petition the American military governor to remove a Nazi-coddling, ex-Nazi mayor. And one wonders how many more similar stories are to be told.

### Funny Business



"Can I help it if I lost the keys to my handcuffs?"

If they are true—and so far they are not denied—it would seem that General Eisenhower's announced program for Germany isn't going forward smoothly. For he told a Washington press conference that a prime objective was to get local communities functioning again, to collect case histories on all inhabitants, to screen them, and then to give the anti-nazis and neutrals responsibility authority.

That will require a military government functioning as efficiently as a fighting force, all down the line, if victory is to be secured and the unpleasant job of rehumanizing the thinking of a lot of unpleasant people is to be done as well as possible.

As it is, our occupying forces in some areas would seem to be disillusioning the wrong people. Instead of making the Nazis definite outcasts as far as the victors are concerned, and ignoring even the Nazi sympathizers in restoring a measure of self-regulation, they may be persuading the non-Nazis and repentant former sympathizers that the Americans, having fought and died to destroy Nazism, now consider the whole job done or else don't really care too much.

This is obviously untrue. But word of a few mistakes in a few towns can spread quickly. And that can make the long, hard job of expunging Nazism from German thought and life infinitely longer and harder.

What Germany must get from America is a new deal—not one in capital letters, but a complete change from the politics and economics and philosophy of the last 12 years. Such enlightened Germans as there are expect it. The rest deserve it—not for their own sake, but for America's and the world's.

The deal seems to have been handled somewhat awkwardly so far. But we are confident that General Eisenhower, once he is back in Germany, will give the fresh pack a thorough shuffling.

### SO THEY SAY

Our security and peace depend upon what the people of the world know about us and what we know about them.  
—Dean Carl W. Ackerman, Columbia University.

It is clear to me that whatever the terms of peace, the fundamental basis of our defense must be universal military training. No other practical solution has been offered.  
—Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff, U. S. Army.

I'm overjoyed that some efforts are being made to break the political deadlock (in India) which, if allowed to continue much longer, would undoubtedly bring about a third world war.  
—Sirdar J. L. Singh, president, U. S. Indian League.

Until domestic service is treated like a skilled trade, there won't be any domestic service.  
—Mrs. Ethel M. Wood, British womanpower expert.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Radio, telephone and telegraph experts who have spent millions on tricky new gadgets for military communications are soon going to face a most embarrassing admission, namely, that carrier pigeons have done a better job per unit of cost than all their high-powered new radio and electronic devices.

Less than 1 per cent of the entire signal corps budget has gone into its carrier-pigeon program, but inside fact is that pigeons have come through many times when radio and wires have failed.

So far, the story of the pigeons has not been told. Despite all the stories about secret transmitters for all European underground, the fact is that the most reliable means of getting messages out of Europe during the Nazi occupation was via carrier pigeon. Some of the birds were shot down by the enemy, but United States airmen were constantly dropping them to United States agents behind the lines and most of the pigeons got through with their messages.

In Burma several months ago, nine groups of parachute troops were dropped behind the Jap lines with the very latest and best radio equipment. Only two of these crews were ever heard from via radio, but contact was maintained with the other seven by carrier pigeon.

One factor in the success of the carrier-pigeon program has been the development of a new-type parachute for the pigeons, which drops their cage gently to the ground without breaking. Previously birds were sometimes killed when dropped with old-style parachutes.

### Sugar From Japs

Representative Clinton P. Anderson (the new war food administrator and secretary of agriculture) is turning his house food study committee to the study of poultry and eggs. But meanwhile he is not through with the sugar situation.

He has asked President Truman's help in getting the army, the navy, OPA, FEA and other agencies not to demand more sugar than they are entitled to; also has suggested that either army or civilian experts be sent into the various sugar-producing islands in the Pacific which our troops have taken or will take from the Japs. Hundreds of thousands of tons of sugar probably will be found on islands like Formosa, Los Negros and others.

Anderson is also urging the planting of

an additional 10,000 acres of sugar beets in California at once, in order to increase our sugar supply for next year.

### Congressional Banter

Isolationist Republican Harold Knutson of Minnesota was blasting the trade agreements bill before the house ways and means committee the other day when dapper Joe Baldwin of New York, also a Republican, countered by arguing that the superior quality of American goods was enough to insure that they would be in demand throughout the world, even though they might cost more than native goods.

"That may be true in the case of office machinery, automobiles and tools," challenged Knutson, "but when the gentleman stretches it to cover textiles, glassware, pottery and the things that require a lot of hand labor, then I say he has been out in a rain-storm without an umbrella."

Other congressmen chuckled. Baldwin, who is constantly being kidded about his umbrella-carrying habit, shot back: "I always carry an umbrella."

However, the New York congressman came back more sharply a moment later when Knutson charged that "if the gentleman had ever carried a dinner pail," he would feel that granting the state department the power to alter present tariffs by 50 per cent was dangerous.

"I have carried a very heavy pack on my back for two years across most of Europe fighting a war," Baldwin shot back. "That is the reason I feel the way I do—because I do not want to see it happen again."

### Attlee Washes Dishes

The Rt. Hon. Clement Attlee, former lord president of the council and deputy prime minister of England, is now busy campaigning against Winston Churchill. But not long ago, he did some heavy dish-washing.

Attlee was invited to dine with an old friend, San Francisco printer Joseph Collier, who, 30 years before, had been a member of the same labor party club in the outskirts of London. Mrs. Collier, however, didn't even have a maid to serve the number two man of England. Attlee, who didn't mind this a bit, ate a huge meal, and asked who was going to do the dishes.

"Why, I'll do them later myself," Mrs. Collier replied.

Attlee protested, went into the kitchen, put on an apron, and the Colliers watched the deputy prime minister of England wash the dishes.

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

A New York newspaper recently devoted considerable space to an interview with a couple of parents who think "rearing children should and can be fun."

No wonder the paper thought their theory has news significance. That is an idea that is as rare today—among the intelligent parents who take their responsibilities seriously—as bacon or nylon.

Johnny to many parents has become a case problem instead of a child to be loved, guided, occasionally spanked and enjoyed.

His parents get in a dither over how to handle this small problem, dignify his badness with technical terms and all in all take him so seriously they don't have much fun bringing him up.

They've been so badly scared by the child experts they are afraid to bring a child up on common sense—but bring him up on rules and theories instead.

And that's no fun, for either Johnny or his parents. His childhood really isn't much more than a prolonged headache.

Maybe that is one reason why the birth rate among more highly educated persons is so shockingly low.

They regard children as problems to be solved, instead of human beings whose company should be fun and who aren't too complex to be well brought up on a fifty-fifty mixture of love and common sense.

"I don't know what to do about Johnny" is the modern wail. And maybe the answer is as simple as this: "Have fun with him."

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—When the house of representatives goes into one of its knockdown, dragout free for alls—as it just did in its seven-hour non-stop fight over price control renewal—there isn't a better show in Washington. More bedlam, more wild statements, and millions of words that should-be-eaten-with-or-without-ration-points spilled all over the floor.

On nearly every question, the argument was split right down the middle aisle, the Republicans favoring amendment of OPA all over the lot, the Democrats favoring continuance of OPA as is for another full year. Less than a dozen members from either side broke over the party line on votes and for once it was almost possible to tell the difference between a Republican and a Democrat. That made poor old OPA a purely political football, and it got a terrible kicking around as a result.

The Republican strategy wasn't to repeal OPA outright. Nothing like that. Nearly every Republican speaker stressed how he was all for price control—but. The buts were that they wanted prices raised.

They didn't say this right out, but through a whole series of amendments intended to compel OPA to guarantee profits or costs of production on manufactured goods, on processed foods, on perishable agricultural commodities in season and stuff like that. Leaders in this amending business were Jesse P. Wolcott and Fred L. Crawford of Michigan, Howard H. Buffett of Nebraska, John C. Kunkel of Pennsylvania.

Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois said all the wisdom was on the Republican side and all the votes were on the Democratic side and the Democrats did have enough votes to kill off all these amendments until Thomas A. Jenkins of Ohio came up with his broadside proposal to transfer all OPA functions except rationing to the department of agriculture. When the Republicans caught the Democratic leaders off guard and put that one over 145 to 142, they cheered like wild men.

If the Republicans can make this amendment stick, they will put OPA out of business, make life nice for Chester Bowles and

hand to the new secretary of agriculture, Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico, the hottest potato in the United States today.

About all Anderson could do in such a situation would be to take over OPA's price control machinery and run it with much the same personnel it has today. But the Republicans would consider even this a victory—a great big added embarrassment to the Democratic administration.

Just how good a long range political issue the Republicans have got hold of in their opposition to the OPA is hard to measure. What the Republicans have seized on is the current dissatisfaction of producers and distributors who aren't allowed to make more money—of consumers who can't buy everything they want. The Republican urge is to meet this dissatisfaction by easing up on OPA controls so that suppliers will have added money incentive to make more goods available to the demanders who have the money to spend.

The political danger of this is that when you give an inch you have to let go a mile. If the Republicans should succeed in breaking price controls, there would be an immediate loud demand that wages would have to go up to meet the higher prices to carry through and to make the most of their initial political victory, the Republicans would then have to lend their support to breaking the little steel formula.

That might gain the Republicans some of the labor support they have lost in the last 12 years. On the other hand, broken price control plus broken wage control adds up to only one thing—inflation.

Most of the inflation in World War I came after Germany was defeated, not during the war. If history should now repeat and if price control should be permitted to get out of hand, there might be a terrific kickback.

If the Republican party should become known as the party that started the United States on the road to inflation, the GOP would be worse off than it has ever been and it wouldn't have a chance in 1948.

Viewed that way, the Republican strategy may be extremely short-sighted.

### Side Glances



"No, I don't know her, but I just smiled at her automatically. I guess—she has such a pleasant face!"

## McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

### MANY AN IF BETWEEN BID AND CONTRACT

While the American contract bridge league has several different charity activities, my favorite is the children's unit in Memorial hospital. Now that research work can go forward in greater strides, I am looking for some real developments in the fight against cancer in children.

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## IN FORMER YEARS

### 30 Years Ago

Mrs. H. B. Clark and daughter, Dorothy, left for Omaha to visit friends.

Fred B. Currey has returned from a trip to Union and Cove. Jack Oliver returned from a visit to Hermiston and Stanfield where he investigated the growing of grapes.

### 15 Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Snodgrass returned from Portland where they visited three days with his aunt, Mrs. C. P. Wellman, who is a former resident of this city.

Members of the state board of higher education arrived in La Grande this morning and spent the morning hours at the Eastern Oregon Normal school, on an inspection tour.

The city commission, at its meeting last night held a discussion that is expected to culminate in the granting of a franchise to the Natural Gas corporation of Oregon.

### 10 Years Ago

Mrs. Ethel Rynearson and three children were dinner guests at the George Fuller home beyond Rock Wall. Mrs. Joe Salkield was another guest and concluding a week's stay at the Fuller home, she returned to her home in La Grande with the Rynearsons.

Dr. W. M. Pearce was re-elected secretary of the Oregon state board of optometry examiners at the annual election in Portland. Dr. Floyd B. Dayton of Portland was re-elected head of the board for the 17th consecutive year.

## This Curious World



ANSWER: They are the names of wind types in various regions of the earth.

● NEXT: The first air express.