

# EDITORIAL PAGE

## La Grande Evening Observer

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"Let Uncle Hold Him 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

The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.—Joel 3:31.

### Postwar Air Preparedness

A committee of the National Planning association has issued a clear and thoughtful interim report on recommended national policies for the reconversion and post-war development of the aircraft industry — policies which, it might be added, are conspicuously lacking at present.

The report expresses concern over this lack, and recommends that legislation be enacted to enable this country to maintain an alert, modern and adequate post-war defense. As things stand now, military aircraft production will end with the end of hostilities, according to provisions of the war mobilization and reconversion act.

"On V-day", says the report, "we undoubtedly shall have the world's biggest and most modern air force, but it will be largely obsolete with respect not only to the most recent developments in conventional aircraft types, but also to developments in jet propulsion and other radical changes."

"The temptation to rely on the size and quality of our existing air forces, neglecting the means by which they were produced and by which alone their continued development can be assured,

will be great in the inevitable period of let-down following the end of hostilities."

Speaking of the aircraft program now scheduled to end with V-J Day, the report states: "If this continues to be our national policy, there will be complete interruption of military procurement for an unpredictable length of time. The effect of this policy on aircraft manufacturing companies will be that few, if any, could keep their vital research, engineering, labor and management skills together."

The committee, of course, leaves determination of the size of our post-war air force to congress, whose decisions will in turn rest on the success and requirements of the world security organization. But, insisting that we shall need an air force, it suggests that a useful life of military aircraft be estimated at four years, and that there be an annual 25 per cent replacement with new, superior planes in an air force of constant size.

It recommends further that the research program not be confined to the building of a few prototypes, but that it be combined with industrial activity, including exhaustive tests and the solution of production problems.

The report warns that there might not be another chance to get a "running start" on production by filling foreign orders, as happened in this war. It urges that we maintain an industrial nucleus capable of rapid expansion.

All this is sound thinking, not sword rattling. We shall certainly need an air force in the new league to keep the peace. We should have the best. So far congress has done nothing about bringing that into being. We cannot afford to let our military aircraft production halt and die, as it did after 1918, and still contribute adequately to national and world defense.

### Funny Business



### SO THEY SAY

All of us want a charter and a world organization upon which we can build for the future.

—Dr. Herbert Vere Evatt, foreign minister of Australia, at the San Francisco world conference.

We have enough bread (in France) for immediate needs, but the situation as affecting other foods is likely to grow worse.

—Leon Jouhaux, general secretary of the French confederation of labor, while in the U. S.

We must find coal supplies and get them moving before the end of September or the (fuel) situation in Europe will be appalling this winter.

—Official of European coal organization.

It took only 12 weeks to make me a combat soldier. Why make it a year (of training) if you can do the job in 12 weeks?

—Private Seymour Weinberg, Brooklyn, in opposing compulsory military training in peacetime.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

BY DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Among the most important nazi files in Europe today are those of I. G. Farbenindustrie, the giant German cartel which produced synthetic gasoline, synthetic rubber, plus other secret war materials, and which cooperated with various American firms, such as Standard Oil of New Jersey and the Aluminum Corporation of America before Pearl Harbor.

These files may reveal secret German patents which would help American industry; also reveal the extent to which certain American firms collaborated; also prove the war guilt of German industrial leaders.

However, here is the inside story of what is happening to these files. They were first stored by U. S. army in a German warehouse in Frankfurt. Then the army needed space, and moved a large group of displaced persons—Russians, Poles, French—into the warehouse. The DPS immediately began tearing open the files to see if there was anything valuable in them.

Then the U. S. army needed even more space, and moved the files outside behind the warehouse. There they kicked around in the wind and the rain.

Finally someone high in the army realized the importance of the I. G. Farben files and moved them back into the warehouse. Whether it is too late to make real use of them remains to be seen. Tons and tons of paper are scattered in every direction.

### Exit Miss Perkins

Next to Secretary of the Interior Ickes, the Roosevelt cabinet member who has held office longest stepped out of the cabinet this weekend. Several days before she stepped out, Miss Perkins called up her friend Attorney General Biddle, who left the cabinet simultaneously.

"How do you feel?" she asked.  
"Fine," replied Biddle.  
"Well," said the lady who has been secretary of labor for 12 long and tumultuous years, "Let's go out and celebrate."

This column has sometimes been critical of Miss Perkins during her long tenure of office. But as we look back over the years, something should be said to balance the

criticism. In the first place, no period in the entire history of the nation has been more difficult from the point of view of labor. Labor was in the throes of growing pains. It was an era which Perkins inherited, not one which she personally brought about.

### Sick Man of Europe

There have been two important back-stage developments in the dynamite-laden row between Turkey and Russia—a row which may test out the united nations ability to prevent war almost before the ink is dry on the charter.

Development No. 1: Ed Stettinius, shortly before resigning as secretary of state, sent a strong note to the Russians in which he supported the Turks. He reminded the Russians that at Yalta, Stalin had gone along with the other big three in "assuring Turkey regarding the views of himself, Roosevelt and Churchill" as to "the continuation of Turkish independence and integrity."

Development No. 2: Foreign Commissar Molotov has had another session with the Turkish ambassador in Moscow in which the Russians pulled in their horns somewhat—though they are still sticking a long way out.

According to uncensored diplomatic dispatches, Molotov told the Turkish ambassador during this session Russia would require bases in the Dardanelles "only in case of war, not in peace." Previously, the Russians had demanded the right to take over this vital strip of waterway over which armies have fought for years and which the czars of Russia have coveted ever since there was a Russia.

Molotov also said Russia wished to talk to Turkey about various questions concerning the Balkan states. This was considered an indirect way of saying Russia wants European Turkey ceded to Bulgaria.

However, Molotov added if the above propositions are agreed, Russia would be glad to sign a treaty of alliance with Turkey, which would go further than a treaty of friendship.

These ideas, though more conciliatory than previous Russian proposals, got nowhere with the Turkish ambassador.

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

"Lieutenant keeps Dignity, Loses Wife," said the headline over a brief news item. It seems that in Detroit a wife divorced her husband, a second lieutenant, because he refused to carry groceries for her—saying it was unbecoming his military rank.

It seems a pity she didn't put off divorce proceedings long enough to let her husband get used to the novelty of being an officer—even perhaps long enough to allow him to get a promotion or two. By then he most likely wouldn't have worried about carrying a bundle.

Most women have unlimited patience in handling their kids. They have been told over and over by the experts not to get excited over behavior problems, that all children go through phases when they are rebellious, when they like to assert their au-

thority, when they like to say naughty words, etc. And so mothers are, on the whole, pretty good about letting their kids "grow up."

But nobody has ever told them they ought to be just as patient with a husband who still has a little growing up to do before he is completely adult in all of his reactions.

A very young man with very new gold bars might put a little too much stress on his dignity. But chances are he would get over it in time.

Many a young father who at first thought it was beneath his dignity to diaper a baby changed his mind after he got really used to the new member of the family.

So women who are quick to claim they grow up faster than do men ought to be patient until their men catch up with them.

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—You know, some of the things they do in congress make sense at that.

After spending four years and billions of dollars for war, talking interminably about such incomprehensible issues as reciprocal trade agreements, contract terminations, cartels, Bretton Woods, cutbacks, carryovers, surplus property disposal, reconversion, UNRRA and such things, why a few senators have finally got around to talking about something that everybody can understand—toothache.

This is getting right down to the decayed root of all evils—lumbago, loss of sleep, distemper, bad grades, indigestion, absenteeism, poor eyesight, wife-beating, alcoholism and an inability to chew utility grade beef. If congress could just pass a law making it illegal for anyone to have a toothache, even with a black market in screaming molars, things ought to start getting better right away, whether the senate confirms the San Francisco Pearly Gate charter or no.

The three stalwart statesmen who have been bold enough to fill in the cavity, bridge the gap, touch the nerve center and get their teeth into this bleeding gum of a situation are James E. Murray of Montana, Claude Pepper of Florida, and George T. Aiken of Vermont. This gives the cause a strictly non-partisan, 50-50 backing—two Democrats to one Republican.

Senator Murray's proposal is to spend a million bucks to establish a national institute of dental research and they appropriate another \$730,000 a year to keep it going. This would be cheap. Many's the man who has said, "I'd give \$1,730,000 to be rid of this blankety blank blank, blankety bicuspid." Well, here's a law which would do the trick. Dental research, of course, is what the tooth carpenter does when he starts pokin' around. The Murray bill would simply put this pokin' on a more scientific basis, to get at the causes of toothaches, then extract the cause.

Senators Pepper and Aiken, jointly, have a supplementary bill which would appropriate federal money for grant-in-aid to state and local governments so they could establish and maintain adequate measures for the prevention, treatment and control of such (dental) diseases, including dental-care programs for children, the training of personnel for state and local dental health work and the development and maintenance of effective means for the education of the public concerning dental diseases. There's

a mouthful for you, to try your new store-teeth on.

Hearings on both these bills were held before the senate committee on education and labor last week. What there is educational about a toothache is hard to figure, but you've got to admit it's labor.

A whole flock of witnesses from the American dental association was on hand to lobby for the bill and without the use of novocaine or gas, the statisticians they drilled into the committee on the great American toothache were positively frightening.

Did you realize there are only 70,000 dentists in the United States and that a third of them were in the army and navy? Did you know that some countries don't have any dentists at all? Did you appreciate that 88 out of every 1,000 draftees were turned down because they didn't have the necessary 12 of the 32 teeth they were supposed to have? Can you comprehend that in this United States 238,500,000 teeth need to be pulled while 632,000,000 fillings are needed?

The Murray and Pepper-Aiken bills would do something about these.

Surgeon General Thomas W. Parran of the U. S. public health service estimates that the cost of the Pepper-Aiken bill would be only about \$6,000,000, the second year and maybe \$10,000,000 a year thereafter. That's about what is spent now on T. B. and venereal disease control.

But think what a post-war employment project this dental care business might become. Think of all those idle machine tools at Willow Run that could be moved right into dentists' offices. Better still, why not convert Willow Run into the institute of dental research? Instead of making Liberators to kill people with, the big Ford plant could be used to liberate mankind from all that suffering. Dental work on the assembly line. Oh boy—a new set of uppers and lowers every six seconds.

Think, too, of all the individual WPA projects that could be financed by those grants—in aid. A San Francisco bay bridge in every month. A use for all that gold buried in Kentucky. Jobs for the millions of displaced boiler-makers and riveters in shipyard and airplane plants. Careers for ex-machine gunners. RFC loans to pay people for going to the dentist. Gum erasion control, pyro-cuba taking and buck tooth grade crossing elimination for all.

Wire your congressman now to get behind these bills and bear down—ouch! But not too hard!

### Side Glances



"You don't like the new brand of oleo? Well, it happens that I've been hoarding points for weeks to buy that half pound of real butter!"

## McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

### GREAT OLD-TIMER WAS DEFENSE ACE

In bridge, as in all sports, there is always an argument about who are the outstanding players of the country, and whether they are better than the old-timers. If you were to ask any player in Chicago who was the best tournament bridge player in the last 20 years, he would tell you Max M. Cohen was one of the greatest

defensive plays. Suit directing plays were unknown then, so Max overtook his partner's opening lead with the diamond ace and led back the four of clubs, even though it was right into dummy's ace, queen, jack. When a trump was led, he jumped in with the ace, led a small diamond and got a club ruff, defeating the contract.

Hand diagram showing cards for South, West, North, and East. South: ♠73, ♣KQJ4, ♠K1097, ♣53. West: ♠A74, ♣A863, ♠A, ♣4. North: ♠A86542, ♣A74, ♠A863, ♣4. East: ♠A, ♣4. Dealer: South. Opening: ♠K.

### IN FORMER YEARS

#### 33 Years Ago

June was a stellar month in Dan Cupid. In Union county he hit the bull's eye 29 times and set a record over past months by a wide margin.

Mrs. S. H. Bergold and children of Imbler were in La Grande enroute to their old home in Indiana, for an extended visit.

#### 15 Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Foley of this city and Mr. and Mrs. Est Foley of The Dalles returned from a trip through Yellowstone national park.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Hamilton and two children, and W. H. Hamilton and Miss Lena Look, left for San Francisco. They made the trip down through Klamath Falls and Crater lake.

#### 10 Years Ago

A number of La Grande and Eastern Oregon students were in the list of successful applicants for limited scholarships to attend institutions of higher education. The list included: University of Oregon—Wallace Kaapeke, La Grande; Oregon State college—Howard Lyman and John K. Fisher, La Grande; Eastern Oregon normal school—Madelyn Bates, Prairie City, Helen Fedler, Ritter, Phil Pelland, Hot Lake, Edward Piper, Haines, Jean Louise Taylor, Richland, Marvin Wiggins, Lostine, and Verneeta Del Monta Wood, Sweet Home.

In spite of the damp weather a large crowd turned out to witness the dedication of the monument and flagpole at the IOOF cemetery, conducted by the Women's Relief corps in honor of the Oliver P. Morton post of the GAR.

### This Curious World



ANSWER: Nevada, with a population of about 110,000 persons. NEXT: World's champion rail survivor.