

# EDITORIAL PAGE

## La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 5, 1945

Page Four

Still in the Driver's Seat, but—



### EVENING OBSERVER'S PROGRESS PROGRAM

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

### How Long Will the War Last?

The most important question before the American public today is "How long will the war last?"

It has been our privilege and good fortune to hear a number of highly competent speakers discuss the question at the recent convention of the Oregon newspaper publishers association held in Eugene.

The answer to the question is one year to two years!

Each speaker stressed the point that this is the best estimate, assuming that the American public puts everything it has into the battle with Japan and does not let down in any one of the myriad ways in which the total war effort can be affected.

Commander Paul Smith who handles public relations for the United States navy, and who, as a line officer, participated in the invasion and occupation of Okinawa, told the assembled publishers that the prospect that Japan will quit, as many persons including those who can be assumed to know, are predicting, can have no basis in factors active at this time.

Japan cannot afford to quit, he said, and probably will not until she is beaten to her knees. To quit Japan will have to withdraw from all occupied territory including China, Manchuria, the areas by-passed by the advancing American units, the islands still held in the south seas. She will have to disarm and demilitarize millions of men in all the occupied areas and withdraw them to the Japanese mainland. She will have to

change overnight her entire internal economy and her people and leaders their entire concept of Japan's place in the international picture.

Japan will not quit until she is forced to do so by complete defeat, he said.

It will take years for this nation to put itself in a position to defeat Japan because of the military problems involved.

To mount a full offensive on Japan from Okinawa with big bombers will require six or seven airfields on that island. The last field cannot be completed for many months, probably five or six. The problem of transportation still involves a haul of eight thousand miles before the men and munitions can be used to hit their objective.

The Japs are good fighters and battling desperately, he said. The American forces paid dearly for Okinawa and the Japanese defense of that island from a military point of view was strategically and tactically brilliant.

The American people and their military forces face a terrible ordeal before Japan is defeated. The severity of this ordeal can be lessened only if all of the population realizes the true picture, appreciates the enormity of the job which still faces us and puts everything the nation has to offer in production and manpower to thorough prosecution of the war.

The chief cost — the cost in American lives — will be tremendous, he believes, if anything less than full effort is put forth.

Before the defeat of Germany we were fighting her with one fist and holding off Japan with the other.

Since Germany's defeat has released our right hand, shall we start waving it in the air and continue to fight Japan with our left, or shall we bring around our right for a full scale two-fisted attack?

The answer which the American people give to that question contains the answer to "how long will the war last?" So believes Commander Paul Smith.

### Funny Business



"Now if I can combine the two gracefully we'll have swell lines for a new car!"

### SO THEY SAY

The Detroit area does not need workers from other places.  
—Edward L. Cushman, Michigan state WMC director.

Discussions and questions are naturally squelched. Our teaching is a deliberate process of discouraging independent thinking as much as possible.  
Teacher at Marburg, Germany.

The American merchant marine which took more than 70 per cent of our troops (overseas), will bring them back in the manner and style to which they are entitled.  
—Frank J. Taylor, president American Merchant Marine Institute.

There are many pitfalls ahead of us, but if we fail we are not likely to get another chance to fulfill the purpose for which we have fought, the assurance of a secure peace and a decent life for all Americans.  
—Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Harry Hopkins won't go to Berlin for the Big Three meeting. Chief reason: health. Whenever Harry goes away on trips, he forgets to take his pills and has a setback . . . another reason may be that Hopkins and Byrnes don't get along. It was Hopkins who last December persuaded FDR to appoint Stettinius rather than Byrnes as secretary of state . . . Truman, incidentally is strong for Hopkins, urged him to be U. S. ambassador to Moscow. Again health intervened . . . It's interesting to see how public opinion has changed regarding Hopkins, now that he is advising Truman instead of FDR. Everybody cursed him before; now they praise him for straightening out Poland. Part of the old enmity against Hopkins was the natural jealousy toward anyone close to the throne. With Truman, people know he is welcome but not close.

The old hullabaloo of artillery shells not reaching the western front is now being set aside and for all by the Mead committee. Careful Senator Kilgore of West Virginia interviewed high-ranking generals at the front who swore there was no shell shortage . . . General Somervell and Under Secretary of War Patterson had screamed that the home front had fallen down. Even Jimmy Byrnes fell for this one . . . Though Truman has brought a lot of westerners into the cabinet, actually three New Yorkers remain. They are: Stimson (war), Forrester (navy), Morgenthau (treasury). The fourth New Yorker, Miss Perkins, stepped down . . . Here is the geographical layout of the rest of the cabinet: Texas—(Clark—attorney general); Illinois—(Ickes—interior); Iowa—(Wallace—commerce); New Mexico—(Anderson—agriculture); Washington—(Schwellenbach—labor); South Carolina—(Byrnes—state); Missouri—(Hannegan—post office) . . . Then, of course, Harry Truman himself, also from Missouri. So it looks as if the west was pretty well represented.

Chalk up a belated victory to the little group of senators who opposed the Stettinius state department team. President Truman has now pretty much recognized the validity of their opposition. The senators who rebelled against the Stettinius team were: Florida's Pepper, Pennsylvania's Guffey, Montana's Murray, Kentucky's Chandler, Wisconsin's LaFollette, North Dakota's Langer and Vermont's Aiken . . . Langer was the only senator who had the courage to get up and make a speech against Stettinius. He pointed out he had nothing personal against him, but that Stettinius just hadn't the proper background for secretary of state. Truman has now agreed with Langer . . . Leo Pasvolksy, gnome-like for-

mer White Russian master-mind of the San Francisco charter, probably will accompany Ed Stettinius as adviser to the United Nations . . . William Paley, former head of Columbia Broadcasting, now deputy head of army's psychological warfare, has submitted a secret memo to OWI urging a German radio network. Funny thing is, that Paley wants it operated by Germans.

Inside reason why the London Poles die such a slow death: There's a stake of \$60,000,000 in gold in London which the London Poles control as long as they have a government . . . International Harvester, Standard Oil, General Motors and International Tel. and Tel. have been trying to find out what happened to their investments in Hungary and Rumania. So far, the Russians won't let 'em send a single man inside those two countries . . . A group of Belgian political leaders visited King Leopold in Austria to get his ideas on the future of their country. His answers were so out of step with new Europe that even the Catholic leaders, hitherto favoring the king's return, seriously considered revising their position.

Truman has offered Ickes' job to three old friends, but all three turned it down with the advice that the best man for the job was already holding it . . . Governor Mon Wallgren of Washington with whom Truman talked several weeks ago, replied: "What's the matter with the man you've got as secretary of the interior? You can't improve on him" . . . Before Congressman Clinton Anderson was offered the department of agriculture, Truman talked to him about being secretary of the interior. Anderson praised Ickes and declined . . . Third potential candidate was Judge Sherman Minton, former senator from Indiana. He also replied the best man is already in the job . . . When Bob Hannegan was sworn in as postmaster general, he paid sincere tribute to retiring Postmaster Frank Walker . . . "Frank was the first man to suggest that I become chairman of the national committee," Hannegan said, "and he was the first man to suggest that I should fill his shoes as postmaster general" . . . Hannegan voiced what many feel about Frank Walker—one of the most unselfish, lovable persons ever to hold high office . . . When Senator Tom Connally spoke at the swearing-in ceremony of Attorney General Tom Clark, he began: "General Biddle, General Clark, and any other generals who may be here" . . . Homey Tom Clark didn't lose his sense of humor when he took the oath. After making an appropriate speech, he said: "Now I want you to meet the folks." First he introduced his 78-year-old mother, then his wife.

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

The girl making conversation with a navy officer just returned from the southwest Pacific started to complain about the weather.

Everyone at home agreed it had been a dismal spring—and so she was totally unprepared for the officer's reaction.

He said, "Listen, this weather is wonderful. If you were ever in the southwest Pacific for even a month, you would be dreaming about this kind of weather."

So complaining about the weather—a favorite American pastime—may be a luxury we will have to give up, now that men are beginning to come back from places that make even the worst weather America can produce seem pleasant.

And maybe it will be a good thing for us, at that. We look forward to summer—so

that we can complain to everyone we meet, "This hot weather has me whipped."

And then we look forward to the end of the heat so that we can begin to complain about the cold and the slush and the depressing gray days.

There aren't but a few days in each year when we aren't fussing about the weather. Just getting bored with the subject has never made us drop it. But maybe we'll stop if enough of us are told by the servicemen, who froze in Europe or sweltered in the tropics, that we don't know what bad weather is.

And won't that be a real blessing? Especially if it stops the person who is fond of asking, "Well is it hot enough for you today?"

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, July 5—Just like a refreshing breeze off snow-capped Mt. Rainier, Judge Lewis B. Schwellenbach swept into torrid Washington. Things began to hum. For the first time in years, the U. S. had a secretary of labor—one who looked as though he could carry and throw his weight around with tough-skinned labor leaders or industrialists.

Judge Schwellenbach stands six feet two or better, and he weighs in now at 190 which is 20 pounds lighter than when he left Washington as senator in October 1940 to take what he calls the best job in the world, a federal judgeship. Today, he looks fit, he looks you in the eye, and when he doesn't know an answer, instead of showing off a lot of fancy footwork, he says "I don't know." If you think that isn't refreshingly different, you don't know Washington.

He says he has no preconceived ideas and no prejudices.

He doesn't know what he will recommend on post-war wages and hours. For the period of war contract cutbacks and reconversion, he says everything points toward more labor troubles. He has no illusions about being able to stop strikes. But he does consider it his job to minimize labor controversy and labor disputes. Dr. John B. Steelman, former head of the U. S. conciliation service, has been brought back to Washington temporarily.

Schwellenbach has talked to Eric Johnston, U. S. chamber of commerce president, who also comes from Spokane, about the labor charter which Johnston, CIO's Phil Murray and AF of L's Bill Green sponsored last March for voluntary settlement of labor disputes without government participation. Schwellenbach thinks this idea may be effected, if it can be implemented.

Asked about the Burton-Ball-Hatch labor arbitration bill just introduced in the senate, Schwellenbach says he hasn't read it, and doesn't intend to read it until he gets through with the re-organization of the de-

partment of labor, which he considers his first job. In addition to Steelman, Schwellenbach has brought five other old friends into the department to serve as his eyes and ears, and act as his advisors on re-organizing the department and the score or more of independent labor agencies scattered around the town.

Schwellenbach has notified the heads of the railroad brotherhoods, the United Mine Workers, the AF of L, and the CIO, that he wants to consult them, and wants them to designate men from their headquarters to come into the department of labor and work with him on its re-organization. Labor leaders have thus far been rather backward about expressing themselves on Schwellenbach's appointment, largely because they were put out by President Truman's failure to consult them on the appointment. When Schwellenbach was asked if he would meet with these labor leaders jointly, he turned quickly and with a big smile said, "Separately." On the subject of greater unification of the American labor movement to end jurisdictional war fare, Judge Schwellenbach tells a story about the first divorce case he handled when he was a young lawyer. A professor at law school had impressed upon him the duty of an attorney to bring together the parties to any suit, so when an intelligent looking young woman retained him to get her a divorce, he did try to effect a reconciliation. He thought: he had succeeded, but just as man and wife were about to kiss and make up, they found some new cause for argument and both turned against him. "I lost the case," Schwellenbach confesses, "I lost the fee and I lost the client." He'll never make that mistake again.

He has set himself a goal of finding out within 30 days what goes on in the department of labor and the 20-odd independent labor agencies. In the next 30 days, or by Sept. 1, he hopes to work out a plan for re-organizing the whole kit and kaboodle. He'll go on from there.

### Side Glances



"We were born five years too late. Mortimer—we are a generation of civilians too young for the war, doomed to a life without romance!"

### McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

#### YOU'VE GOT TO BID TO BEAT SID FINK

I always said the western reserve team members were great card players. They have to be—they love to bid.

Elmer Babin in Cleveland just sent me this hand with which Sidney Fink arrived at seven no

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clubs, as East had to protect the queen of spades and West had to try to protect the jack of hearts; thus the 13th trick was made with the three of clubs.

### IN FORMER YEARS

#### 30 Years Ago

After a jaunt through Montana, British Columbia, Washington, all parts of Oregon, California and other states, Joe Long, old-time miner and traveler, and Mrs. Long are in La Grande, prepared to take a long rest. They liked the cooling breezes that came down the canyons this afternoon, and without previously expecting to do so, have selected La Grande as the place where they will make a prolonged stay.

La Grande socialists Saturday evening Lanquated Thomas Mills, the leading socialist, who spoke here last week. The gathering was held in the Christian church parlors and about 40 men gathered to meet Mills.

#### 15 Years Ago

Mrs. M. H. Beeson, gold star mother of this city, left here this week for New York, where she will sail on July 8 on the pilgrimage to France. She will visit relatives in several eastern cities before her return to La Grande. She was accompanied by Mrs. Ann Noian, also a gold star mother, of Lostine.

Somewhat like a bit of old Scotland transplanted in America, the Scotch picnic held yesterday at Emigrant Springs found everyone from La Grande, Summerville, Kamela and Pendleton there. More than a hundred natives of Harry Lauder's own land were seated at long tables loaded with Scotch delicacies.

#### 10 Years Ago

Prof. Elmo Stevenson, Dr. C. L. Gilstrap, Cecil Ager, all of La Grande, G. W. Ager and Charles Niewanger of Bend will spend the remainder of this week fishing in the Bend district. The La Grander will return Sunday, Dr. Lewa Wilkes Ager and daughter will accompany the men to Bend where she will visit relatives while they are angling.

### This Curious World



ANSWER: King Neptune.  
NEXT: Our liquid assets.