

EDITORIAL PAGE

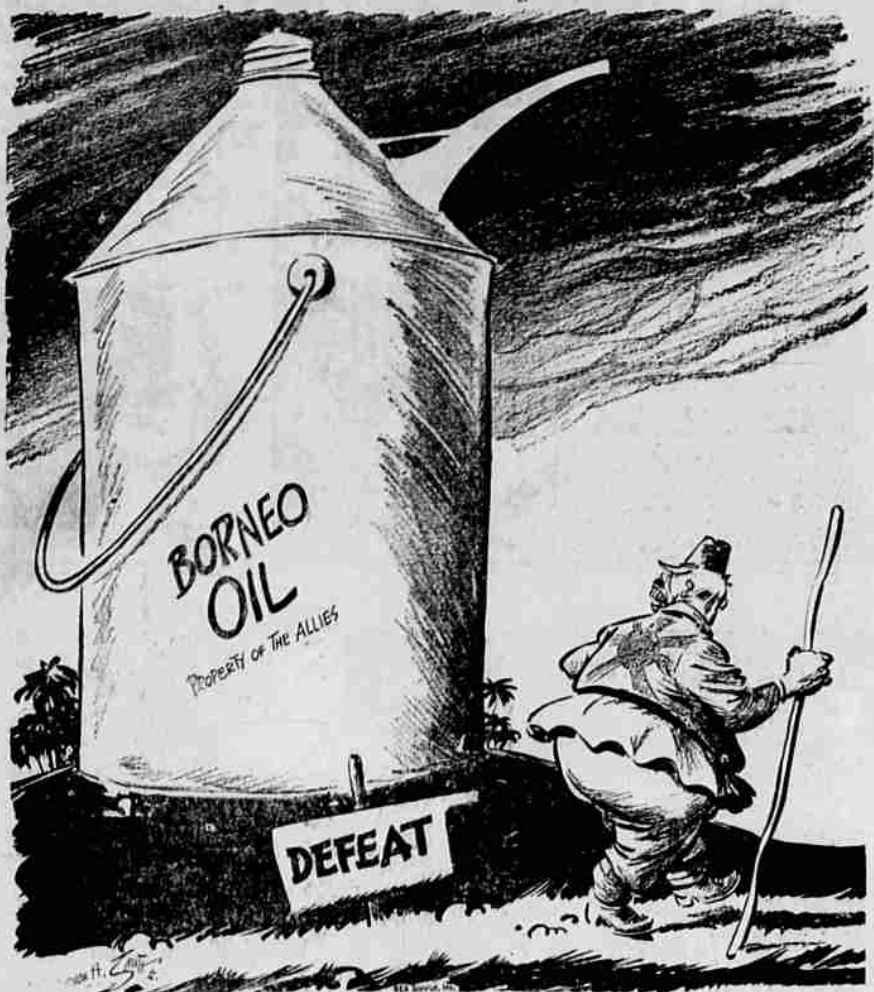
La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 12, 1945

Page Four

Another Marker Along the Road



EVENING OBSERVER'S PROGRESS PROGRAM
IRRIGATION—Complete the Grande Ronde Valley irrigation project.
LA GRANDE — A city of 10,000 — Extend the city limits.

Menace of the Filibuster

In considering the list of outstanding people who have joined in urging speedy ratification by the United States senate of the United Nations charter, it becomes difficult to imagine the possibility of the rejection of, or the failure to approve, the document drafted at San Francisco.

The charter has the endorsement of practically all, if not all, of the more prominent figures in the democratic party. Of greater significance, it is endorsed by such men as Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, Senator Vandenberg of Michigan and former Governor Stassen of Minnesota among republicans who, as the minority group, would normally be expected to furnish any opposition that might exist or develop. Likewise, speedy ratification has been urged by the governors' conference which met recently. As a matter of fact, if there is any considerable or important opposition to approval of the charter, it has not yet made itself heard.

In view of such support, every present indication does seem to point to speedy ratification of the document. Prospects, as they appear now, probably are brighter for favorable action than ever has been true of any legislation of comparable importance pending before the upper house.

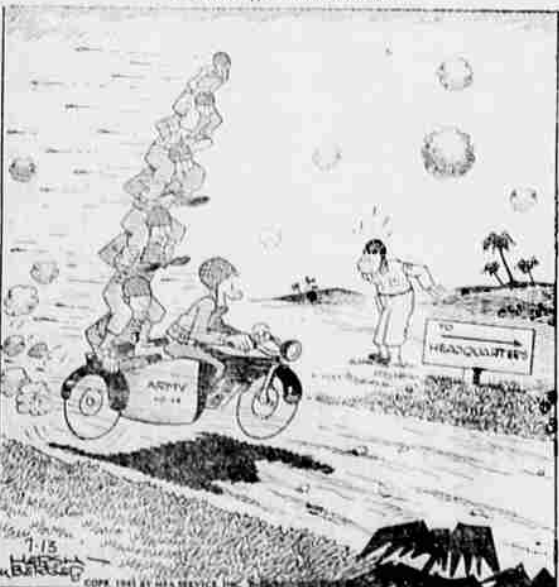
If there is any danger at all that ratification may be refused or blocked, it appears now to lie in the possibility of a senatorial filibuster. There have been no surface indications as yet of such a maneuver, but part of the strategy of a filibuster sometimes is surprise.

Most people understand the meaning of the term, "filibuster," as applied to the senate. It is a device employed by a minority hopelessly beaten to defeat the will of the majority. Filibusters are made possible under a rule of procedure which allows unlimited senate discussion and debate on any pending matter except when a "cloture" rule is adopted—and cloture rules are extremely difficult of adoption. Without such a rule, any senator who might so desire would be permitted to speak as long as he had strength to talk.

This does not suggest that any such thing will happen in connection with the charter. Probably it won't happen. But it could happen, just as it has happened in the past. A small handful of senators could block—literally talk to death—such a measure even though all their colleagues and the vast majority of the people might be demanding it.

So, while the senate and the nation are thinking of the charter, isn't it time to give thought also to reemerging conditions under which filibusters not merely are possible, but are of relatively frequent occurrence? Even if the charter is approved, is it to the national interest to retain conditions under which it, as in the case of all legislation in future, might be blocked by a vocal and long-winded minority?

Funny Business



"Saves vehicles—they used to be a vaudeville tumbling act!"

SO THEY SAY

If I were president, I would want whomever is running the veterans office sitting at the cabinet table.

—Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, retiring veterans administrator.

We come home on prayer and hope.

—Lt. G. E. Miller, pilot of American Privateer plane that returned to Okinawa with belly ripped out after attacking in Tushima straits.

I fervently hope that the cynics who speak disparagingly of the united nations prove to be as wrong as the cynics were at the time the 13 colonies began their great venture.

—Comdr. Harold E. Stassen.

We are going to do things not for, but with, the survivors of the greatest tragedy in Jewish history.

—Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, president, American Jewish Congress.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—One of the worst wastes of food in months occurred recently in Norfolk, Va. It involved potatoes for Belgium. Several weeks ago the army promised three shiploads of potatoes to Belgium, to replace potatoes which our troops had used in that country. Spuds are precious in Belgium, so the Belgians wanted them back. The war food administration agreed to provide the potatoes, and the war shipping administration was to provide the shipping. Everything was set.

War food, however, was able to get a sufficient quantity of spuds only by accepting ture content. These spoil more easily than potatoes of good quality but of high moisture with lower moisture. The war shipping administration was warned of this difficulty, and told good refrigeration was essential. Liberty ships with modern refrigeration were to be provided.

Instead of the Liberty ships, however, war shipping sent three old British boats to Norfolk with completely inadequate refrigeration units.

The spuds were supposed to be loaded quickly and put under refrigeration at once, but the ship's master refused to permit the loading of more than 34 to 40 carloads per day. In this he was correct, for too speedy loading would have overtaxed the capacity of his inadequate refrigeration unit.

More than 350 carloads had been loaded on the first of the three boats when suddenly it was discovered that the ship was listing so badly that the refrigeration unit simply was not functioning. Finally it was decided to pull the potatoes off this boat, but not until so many had gone bad that, as one shipping man put it, "they had to be pumped off."

In the end, the entire consignment of spuds was turned over for sale to civilians. But

by this time so many had gone bad that only about half were eventually brought to the civilian market. The Belgians are still waiting.

Coal Prices Going Up?

It isn't being advertised, but data to justify a raise in the price of coal are now being prepared by solid fuels administrator Ickes in an effort to stimulate production of a commodity which is so short that administration leaders are worried sick. Representatives John Flannagan of Virginia and Andy May of Kentucky called on President Truman last Friday to urge immediate action to increase the coal output.

They proposed: (1) immediate increase in ceiling prices on coal; (2) immediate steps to release from the army approximately 10,000 coal miners who have piled up sufficient points to win their discharge; (3) a ban on further drafting of young miners; and (4) all possible speed in turning out badly-needed mining equipment. President Truman was highly sympathetic on all these points.

There are about 137,000 coal miners now in the armed forces. As a result, the work force in the mines has been curtailed, and mines which a few years ago rarely took men over 25 for work in the pits are now employing men as old as 47 for these jobs. The older men have done miracles, all things considered, and last year turned out more coal than ever before produced in a single year in this country. But even more is needed.

Note—Senator Kilgore of West Virginia has complained to the war department that whereas we have screened German miners from the German army in order to work in German coal mines, the war department has not been able to get any accurate list of coal miners in the U. S. army.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

The Georgia supreme court recently ruled that a wife must follow her husband—even if he moves into a cabin. The decision was made in a case where a wife was suing for alimony after she refused to leave their five-room house to move into a cabin that was nearer her husband's work.

Without any court decision to teach them that lesson, thousands of war wives in the last few years have decided on their own that a wife's place is with her husband, wherever he may have to go.

They have trailed their men over the country—leaving friends and comfortable living quarters behind them—to make homes for their men in any kind of room, apartment, cabin, or shell of a house that they could find.

And with every change of orders for their men, they have cheerfully packed up their belongings and gone right along to the next post and, in most cases, the next set of inconveniences.

They haven't kicked about it or complained because they instinctively knew, as the court decided, that "A wife's place is with her husband—even if it means giving up a

house to live in a cabin."

They haven't any doubt about the wisdom of their decision to follow their men, for they have seen the loneliness of the husbands and wives who have differed about where a wife's place is, the ones who think the right solution is for the wife to stay put in the family home and keeping the kids in the school they are used to. That solution may mean comfort for the wife and kids, but to the war wives who have followed their men it seems like too high a price for comfort.

And now those same women who trailed their men around this country as long as they could and then had their men go off to Europe are already talking of joining their men in foreign countries—now that the war department has announced that wives of men in the army of occupation will be allowed to join their husbands as soon as possible.

War has taught these women enough about separation so that no judge will ever have to tell them that a wife's place is where ever her husband's job takes him. All they ask is to be allowed to follow.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, July 12—Ex-Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, jr., will be busier than a couple of bird dogs when he takes over his double-barreled job as member of the security council and head of the five-man U. S. delegation in the general assembly of the new united nations organization.

The business Council Member Stettinius will have to look out for, as outlined in the charter now being considered for ratification by the senate, would include:

1. Planning the establishment of a system of armament limitation.

2. Determining the existence of any threat to the peace of the world and deciding what should be done about it.

3. Telling the nations in any international dispute to settle their differences by negotiation, mediation, arbitration, judicial settlement or resort to regional agencies like the Pan-American union, or any other peaceful means they can figure out for themselves.

4. If these peaceful means don't work, the council may decide to cut off the disputing countries' foreign trade or communications.

5. If blockades or economic boycotts don't restore peace, the council may then order the use of armed forces.

All of the united nations are obligated under the charter to carry out the decisions of the council. The council has as its strong right arm a general staff committee made up of the chiefs of staff of the Big Five powers. This general staff committee would designate what countries would furnish what air, sea or land forces and direct their use in enforcing the peace.

In passing on all these matters, council member Stettinius will have one vote to cast for the United States. On simple matters of procedure, questions will be settled by a majority of seven out of the eleven council members.

When it comes to the big questions of enforcing peace, however, all of the Big Five plus at least two of the non-permanent members must vote for the action or it's no dice. Only exception to that unanimous Big Five rule will come when one of the council members is in a dispute, in which case it must abstain from voting.

In addition to casting the U. S. vote, council member Stettinius will cast the U. S. pillar Stettinius.

This veto power over which there has been so much controversy, is really a protection for the United States, as Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg has pointed out. If the United States doesn't like any course of action which the security council is taking, it may be killed by a veto vote from Mr. Stettinius.

When council member Stettinius moves over to his other job and becomes general assemblyman Stettinius, he will be sitting in on a big debating society—the new town meeting of the world where anything mentioned in the charter may be discussed.

It can talk about future disarmament, for instance, or any subject relating to world peace, and assemblyman Stettinius can take part in making recommendations for councilor Stettinius and his ten cohorts on the security council to do something about. Once the assembly passes a subject to the council, however, the assembly is supposed to keep hands off and mouth shut till the council takes action.

The assembly is also supposed to promote international cooperation in the development of international law, economic, cultural, social and health improvement. To this end it will receive reports from the security council, the social and economic council, the trusteeship council, council, the secretary general and all the other organizations UNO may set up. When you get right down to the bottom of it, this general assembly will run the works.

Important decisions in this G. A. will be made by two-thirds majority of those present and voting. The five-man, U. S. delegation will get only one vote, and that's all any nation will have. Questions requiring this two-thirds majority include election of new members, election of non-permanent members of the security council, election of nations to be represented on the economic and social council, the trusteeship council, election of the secretary general after nomination by the security council, fixing UNO's budget, kicking out undesirable members and suspending those that haven't paid their dues.

The general assembly must meet once a year, but it isn't expected to be in session all the time, which is a break for assemblyman Stettinius, as that will give him a chance to keep up with the work of councilor Stettinius.

Side Glances



"Oh, so you're marines! Well, the invasion is early, boys—the apples won't be ripe for another two weeks!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

EVEN UNUSAL PLAYS HAVE SET PURPOSE

N. M. Catrino and A. P. Weinberg of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., had quite a time for themselves at the northeastern Pennsylvania championship tournament at Scranton. They won the open pair championship and the following day won the team-of-four

Catrino realized that declarer must have three diamonds, and was going to try to ruff one. He did not carelessly win the trick with the queen—he put on the king and now returned the queen. West realized that this was an unusual play and knew that it was made for a definite purpose, so he overtook the queen with the ace and led back another diamond, which Catrino was able to ruff with the six of spades. Thus, the defenders were able to get three diamonds and two spades—defeating the contract.

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago

Bound for New York via Seattle, San Francisco and southern California, with Orange, Texas, as their ultimate destination, a party of wealthy Texans passed through La Grande today noon, enroute north. They left Orange, their home, June 7, and have been traveling 18 days, resting the balance of the time. Two large Pierce Arrows convey the party and one of the cars has been used in a European tour, and is now being used in the complete circle of the United States. The larger car has 66 horsepower and the smaller 48.

15 Years Ago

Miss Helen Melville and Miss Betty Bohnenkamp are driving to Baker tomorrow evening where they will join the group of girls attending girl scout camp at Anthony lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Reuter are to return tonight from Wallawa lake where they drove yesterday to visit their son, Bob, who is a guest there of Frederick Bingham.

10 Years Ago

The weather warmed up in eastern Oregon yesterday under the influence of a warm sun and absence of chilly breezes, which have been prevalent most of the time this summer. In La Grande the maximum temperature was 89 above, within two degrees of the warmest recorded this year, and indications were today might see a new 1935 record set. The minimum last night was 56 above and at 7 a. m. today the mercury had mounted to 71 above and was still advancing during the morning.

This Curious World



NEXT: The chimpanzee, light housekeeper.