

Enough of This Drifting



A Big Step In The Right Direction

News of the decision of farmers in the Union, Hot Lake and Ladd Canyon district to prepare and circulate a petition for the formation of a soil conservation and reclamation district is important...

The petition, following circulation, will be subject to the approval of the state board of soil conservation, which will set a date for final hearing on the proposal.

Action of this nature on the part of valley farmers indicates a progressive type of thinking and the desire to utilize the land to its fullest extent and to farm in the most profitable manner possible.

Farmers on the original committee, Gilbert Courtright, Charles Grandy, J. C. Beddingfield, T. W. Bates and Royal Allen, are to be complimented on their initiative and persistency.

Best wishes for success to the project should be extended by every business man and farmer in the valley.

New Important Service Now Available

More than passing attention should be given the announcement made today by Eastern Oregon Airways of the daily charter trip service to Portland and return.

This is a type of service very important to the entire area and which may lead to air mail service, also very essential.

Naturally, such service can be main-

tained only if profitable, and the airway operators should be encouraged in every manner possible. We believe the area large enough and that it transacts sufficient business necessitating such service as to warrant its maintenance.

A word of appreciation to operators Merlin Johnson and Keith Province will indicate community and area awareness of the progressive developments at the airport.

The Police Department And the Police School

Chief of Police Clyde Lund and the members of his department are to be highly complimented for their interest in improving police service for the citizens of La Grande and in bringing to the department the FBI police school which was held last week.

J. E. Thornton, special agent in charge of the Portland area, and Special Agents Marshall Barnes, Max Taylor and Howard Patterson of the area, deserve the thanks of the community for their cooperation in bringing the school here.

The FBI schools have been held for many years throughout the country and have brought to local departments the opportunity for instruction and knowledge not otherwise available.

Interest of the local department members in improving themselves and their department is essential, however, and local citizens should let department members know such efforts are appreciated.

Funny Business



They got tired of saluting when we were on duty!

SO THEY SAY

There is no food for sale that ever had black market practices are widespread. I don't think any real effort is being made to stop them.

—Charles C. Lockwood, attorney for Detroit, Detroit Consumers Council.

I hope we shall secure the full cooperation of our gallant allies in the Pacific war. We have carried their cooperation through our efforts in Africa and Europe.

—Joseph W. Martin, a house minority leader.

I had seen the organized workers of America to salute with their war bonds their glorious flag.

—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

Changes in early marriages are credited for girls living in the south. I called the girls in the north.

—Life insurance company's statistical report.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — Senators probing the question of the extent to which American business helped Hitler, have unearthed a very interesting document written by Dr. H. F. Albert, chairman of the Ford auto works in Germany before the war, in which he urged upon the German government the importance of cooperation with American business.

This whole question of whether American business will continue to cooperate with Germany after this war, as after the last, is sure to lurk in the background of President Truman's Berlin talks. There is a definite school of thought in both Britain and the United States which advises building up Germany again as a buffer against Russia.

Senator Kilgore of West Virginia has been studying this whole problem and expects to make public the Ford document soon. It was written Nov. 25, 1941—12 days before Pearl Harbor—in the form of a confidential memorandum by Dr. Albert, chairman of the board of Ford-Werke A. G. in Cologne.

Just before Pearl Harbor, Dr. Albert urged in his confidential memorandum that this 52 percent American stock majority should not be diminished but should be used "to bring the remaining European Ford companies under German influence."

He argued if the American ownership was eliminated, the Germans would lose "the transmittal of the newest American models as well as the insight into American production and sales methods. The maintenance of this connection was in the German interest," Dr. Albert urged.

How Ford Helped Nazis

Dr. Albert told how the Ford plant at Cologne had been turned more and more into a German company, even though the majority of stock was still held in the United

States. In detailing the benefits Ford had given to the nazis, he said:

"In connection with this, all needed foreign raw materials were obtained through the American company (rubber, non-ferrous metals) to cover the production needs of the German plant and above that, in part, for the whole industry. (This would imply that the whole German auto industry was partly supplied through Ford channels before Pearl Harbor.)"

"During the capital increase made in the beginning of 1941 the question of a Germanization of the capital had been discussed with the authorities concerned which led to the reduction to 52 percent of the American majority."

"Among the reasons speaking against a complete Germanization of the capital, the first one is the excellent sales organization which, thanks to its connection with the American company, is at the disposal of the German Ford-Werke A. G. According to their productivity the German company can export to all countries of the world, and in this they are protected and supported in the matter of pricing by the American company. In some countries this had led to make the German export of German Ford cars possible, even though the rest of the German industry was unable to find a solid footing. This limits, or keeps away purely American competition to some extent."

Ford To Be Used As a Cloak

"As long as Ford-Werke A. G. have an American majority, it will be possible to bring the remaining European Ford companies under German influence, namely that of Ford-Werke A. G. and this to execute the greater European policies in this field, too. As soon as the American majority is eliminated, each Ford company in every country will fight for its individual existence. The just-now successfully accomplished joining of the potentiality of the non-German, European companies to the potentiality of Ford-Werke A. G. and with this to the general war potentiality of Germany, would this collapse more or less by itself. Amsterdam, Antwerp, Paris, Budapest, Bucharest, Copenhagen, etc., are concerned."

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Most of the letters I have received from mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law who have tried living together through the war are pretty sad reading.

Mother-in-law spoils Junior or daughter-in-law doesn't do anything around the house, and on and on.

But here's a happy solution to the problem that two intelligent women have worked out.

While the son and husband is overseas mother-in-law and daughter-in-law are living together. There is a small child, too, who could complicate the picture, but doesn't.

For the plan works like this. The daughter-in-law is a nurse, who works three days out of each week. The mother-in-law is a professional woman who manages to keep her career going by working downtown three days a week.

So three days of the week one woman

stays home, does the housework, takes care of the child—and gets her fill of domesticity. Then she is a career woman for three days—during which she is free of housekeeping cares. The same goes for the other woman of the household.

That leaves just one day of every week for the two to share the house and each other's company.

So both women have their careers and their jobs and enough but not too much of each other's company. And Junior doesn't have two persons directing him at once, or striving to monopolize his love.

How much more sensible that arrangement is than the usual wartime one where the young wife and mother works and the mother-in-law stays at home to do the housework and take care of the children. And what a really simple plan it is.

It might even be an idea for women to file away for the time when there aren't enough full-time jobs for women to go around.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, July 17—Robert F. Wagner, New York senator, is usually given credit for being the author of more new deal legislation than any one in congress, but if a new tally were made today, it would show the one man sponsoring the most reform legislation, is the Hon. James E. Murray of Butte, the junior senator from Montana.

Murray's list includes these: The highly controversial full employment bill, on which hearings will soon get under way.

The bill to create a Missouri valley authority. One strike has been called on the MTA by a senate commerce sub-committee, but it has two more chances before irrigation and agriculture sub-committees in the fall.

The broadened social security act with new provisions for public health measures introduced by Murray and co-sponsored with Senator Wagner and Rep. John D. Dingell of Detroit.

To Murray's credit on the statute books are two important measures. The smaller war plants act, creating the small war plants corporation. Murray is the acknowledged senate champion of small business.

The war contracts termination legislation which Murray is chairman of military affairs sub-committee, co-sponsored with Senator Walter F. George, D. Ga., of the post war planning and finance committees.

Every one of these measures involves a whipping of big economic reform. Yet there is little of the usual social worker or professional do-gooder in Murray's make up. Conservatives might make a case that Murray is dangerous and radical, basing their arguments on his record in congress. But there is nothing radical in his background.

In the first place, he is a millionaire. The bulk of his fortune he inherited from a bachelor uncle, old Jim Murray. Young Jim Murray, the senator, who is 46 years old, was educated at the elite's expense at a law school in New York university then he was put to work in a mine. But he has built up the substance of his own riches, mines and real estate so that today he rates more as a

businessman—a rugged individualist, if you please, who says he is primarily interested in saving the American free enterprise system and all it stands for.

When you ask Senator Murray where he got all these ideas, he pulls from under the table a black leather bound copy of "Fortune"—the magazine of big business, mind you—and turns immediately to a marked page in the issue for March, 1933. The title of the editorial article is "Business and Government" and the sub-title is "A division of industry into smaller units might result in some surprising profits." Yes, Murray wants to preserve the profit motive.

There is not space to quote extensively from the "Fortune" article here, but the subhead gives you the idea and it is the basis of Jim Murray's business and political philosophy today.

Murray insists that he is not "labor." Many labor lobbyists have tried to pin their pet projects on his coat-tail, but he never belonged to a labor union and he says he never represented a union in a law case. He is not anti-labor, either. When he ran for re-election in 1942, he was supported by Phil Murray (no relation) and CIO, but he was opposed by the CIO Montana local United Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers union.

Murray has fought the big copper companies and all other "interests" all over the state of Montana, coming and going. They've fought him. When they tried to make peace with him after he had licked them in the 1942 elections, he spurned the offer.

People who know Murray best and work with him explain him by saying he is a born liberal. Congress is noted for its peculiarities, but Murray is unique even in congress. Sly, and a poor speaker, he makes few statements on the floor. But he works himself to the limit, and he probably has more people in Washington working for him on legislative research than any man in town.

His office is organized like a business, and he gives his personal brain trust and staff the go-ahead to jump all the time, developing ideas for new Murray legislation.

Side Glances



"Why is everybody screaming at that man in the blue suit who tells the players what to do? Is he from the ration board?"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

MIDWESTERN EXPERT DISPLAYS SKILL

Detroit recently completed one of its most successful tournaments. Aaron Frank and Art Goldsmith walked off with the

A bridge hand diagram showing a deal with cards and suits. It includes a table for the deal and a list of cards for each player.

East's ace and a spade was returned. This was won with the king in declarer's hand, and he saw that his first step must be to get rid of his losing spade. So he next played the king of clubs, following with the queen. This he overtook with the ace in dummy, and the jack of clubs gave him the needed spade discard. The diamond queen lost to East's ace. East returned a trump and Frank let West's king win. West led back a trump, which was won by declarer, who cashed the diamond king and then cross-ruffed for the rest of the tricks. Most players would fail to overtake the club queen with the ace and go down.

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago, July 17

Hong Wan Duck, aged Chinese and his nephew Tai Chung, are going to China to live permanently. Tai Chung has sold his store to Lem Yuan interests.

Guests from La Grande for seven tables were present at a delightful party given by Mrs. Fred Kiddle at Island City recently. Bridge was played. Honors at cards went to Mrs. P. S. Robinson and Mrs. C. D. Putman. Refreshments were served later in the afternoon.

15 Years Ago, July 17

Mrs. Grace Snyder and son, Charles, left yesterday on their way to Johnston City, Ill., where they will visit relatives. They plan to be gone until the first of September.

S. D. Crowe and son, Dick, arrived in La Grande last night from their home at Eugene for a vacation trip to be spent visiting with friends. Crowe was owner of the telephone company here before it was purchased by the West Coast telephone company, and stayed on awhile for that company in the capacity of district manager.

10 Years Ago, July 17

Drs. J. L. and Margaret Ingie moved their offices from the Sommer building to the Sacoja-va annex. They had been in their former location 13 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Palmer and children returned from a two weeks visit with Mrs. Palmer's mother and sisters who live at San Francisco.

This Curious World



Quoting Odds

MANY NEW TESTAMENTS ARE VERY OLD. Some EVIDENCE, Greater North Carolina.



NEET! Oil wells that don't end well.