

# EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

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Page Four

## Our Changing World



YESTERDAY  
TODAY



### EVENING OBSERVER'S PROGRESS PROGRAM

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

### Tribute To A Pioneer

As you read this editorial, the annual meeting of the Union county pioneer sons and daughters will be concluding at Riverside park. An important part of today's program was the observance of memorial services for departed pioneers with special reference to Mrs. Hattie Eckley, historian of the society who was also one of its founders. It was our pleasure last year to attend the annual meeting of the above organization. At that time, Mrs. Eckley, vigorous and keen, was the center of activity—epitomizing the spirit of the pioneers who settled this area and perhaps the spirit of all pioneers, indomitable and maybe a little bit hard, the result of conditioning in carving out homes and a living by dint of personal effort and overcoming natural difficulties. We were delighted with her. Scheduled to speak on current events, she analyzed the then current world and local situation with a keenness of mind that showed no harking back to the "old days" or a wish for their continuance or the slightest indication of personal relaxation for a job well done. She could not, however, restrain her own enthusiasm and in a few minutes she had departed from her announced subject to discuss the world of the future and the unlimited opportunities for pioneering in many fields. She dis-

cussed national and international progress, the future of the Grande Ronde valley, such special subjects as the future of aviation.

We learned a lot about pioneers during that talk. This woman, who might well have been expected to "remember when" and to glory in the achievements of the old days, considered the "old days" in no more than their proper relation to the present and the future.

She was a pioneer not because she or her parents were among the first to arrive in the area and to contribute to its progress. That had been an accident of time and place.

Not at all. She was a pioneer because she had the pioneer spirit. She had it in 1944 as strongly as she had in 1890. She had personal vigor, imagination, a full sense of life and the value of living, and a sharp anticipation of the wonders which the future offered.

And so from this pioneer we learned something. Our entire generation can learn something from many of her remaining contemporary prototypes.

Civilization, and that means civilization in eastern Oregon, is pushing forward constantly. The speed of that push is determined by the personal attributes of the members of civilization during an era or in an area. There is something in progress for progress' sake and perhaps we need a little of that "hardness" which can stake out obstacles calmly and dispassionately and surmount them.

The past is only something on which to build the future. We can thank the pioneers not only for doing the spade work in the past, but a little more important, for handing down to us courage and vision and willingness to fight for the pleasure of winning.

For these things we can pay grateful tribute to Mrs. Hattie Eckley and her kind in the way they would have wished—by carrying on.

### Funny Business



### SO THEY SAY

As we are entering upon the ninth year of the war, final victory is now secure and the dawn of freedom is already visible.  
—President Chiang Kai-shek of China

We in the United States are now thoroughly and almost unanimously agreed that the walls of isolation are gone forever.  
—Commander Harold Stassen, former governor of Minnesota.

The eminent position of the U. S. in the family of nations is supported by her balanced elements of greatness, one of which is military power.  
—Report of special congressional committee.

Remember this, American. The French will hate us (the Germans). The Russians will use us. The British will ignore us. And the Americans will help us. Mark my words.  
—Karl Winterer, Nazi soldier, to American war correspondent.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Army officers recently returned from Germany are telling this story to illustrate the difficulty of selecting Germans with whom they can cooperate.

When the psychological warfare branch of SHAEF established the first allied newspaper for German readers in Aachen last winter, it was decided to use German personnel wherever possible. Editorial control, however, was to be strictly allied.

A type-setter who seemed to have the respect of his fellow-workers in the printshop of the existing Aachen newspaper was selected to serve as plant superintendent. He had come to the shop with a worker's cap, overalls, and mixed well with the other printers.

Next morning a man in a top hat, winged collar, frock coat and neatly pressed striped trousers appeared in the front office and asked where his desk was to be. The Americans at first did not recognize him, finally realized he was the worker chosen the day before to be plant superintendent. After some hesitation, he was given a small private office.

About noon an American officer passed by this new office of the superintendent and found the words "eintritt verboten" (entrance forbidden) being lettered on the door.

### Franco Gets Sugar

No matter how many high U. S. officials may oppose dictator Franco of Spain inside the government, he always seems to come up with a staunch defender in the state department. This was illustrated recently during off-the-record debates on the highly delicate question of sugar.

Though the American public has been getting more and more pinched for sugar, the state department has always insisted that Spain be cut in for its quota. The state department has issued carefully-worded denials saying that the sugar does not come from the United States—which, of course, is true. It comes from British colonies in the Caribbean area. But so also does most sugar consumed by the American public come

from the Caribbean, and during the war it has been tightly controlled by the combined food board. Thus, whatever is sent to Spain, in the end, comes out of the sugar bowls of the American dinner table.

The combined food board allocates sugar to all our allies, and several weeks ago UNRRA placed before it an estimate that Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Greece and Albania, all of them victims of Nazi aggression, should get 140,000 tons of sugar.

The combined food board thereupon agreed to let UNRRA have 40,000 tons to meet this need. This was considered a definite promise, and UNRRA then began searching to find an additional 100,000 tons.

### Allies Get No Sugar

Just a few days ago, however, something happened. The combined food board reversed itself. It notified UNRRA that the promise 40,000 tons of sugar would not be available for Poland, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Yugoslavia and Albania. In fact, none would be available.

Instead, 60,000 tons of sugar has been allocated by the combined food board to Spain.

Most people recall Poland fought valiantly until she was overrun by the enemy and then continued to fight underground. So did Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Greece and Albania. They all felt the heel of the conqueror.

But apparently the state department doesn't recall this. Nor does it recall Franco set up radio intelligence stations for Hitler, sent all sort of strategic materials to Hitler, had the Spanish army trained by Hitler's agents, made all sort of speeches praising the Nazi and did everything possible to help Hitler win.

Despite all this, the state department instructed the combined food board to send 60,000 tons of sugar to Franco and no sugar to our allies who fought back against Hitler.

Note—UNRRA has managed to find 20,000 extra tons of sugar in Cuba for Poland, Czechoslovakia, et al. But that's a long way from the required 140,000.

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Summer vacations aren't what they used to be for the nation's teen-agers. With the rest of civilian America they are asked to stay off trains—so there aren't those happy weeks away from home they used to have to highlight the summer.

There isn't even gas enough so that city kids can have the car for picnics in the country.

A large number of them have summer jobs—but they need some fun, too. And some American cities are seeing that it is provided for them. In New York, for instance, teen-agers this month will gather from all five boroughs for a Seventeen Summer Barn Dance on the Mall in Central park.

And in Cleveland a "Showgown"—a traveling outdoor entertainment unit on wheels—will travel from one neighborhood to another to provide evenings of music, commun-

ity singing, street dancing, and entertainment by local talent.

Both of these ideas are practical and simple enough so that they could be used in any town or city.

Teen-agers rightly claim that it isn't much fun to be young in wartime. They don't have the same kind of good times that kids have in peacetime.

But their young years needn't be quite as drab as many schools and communities have let them become. There is no reason why the young folks still at home can't benefit from the same kind of planned recreation given their older brothers and sisters in service.

All it takes is some thought and planning on the part of schools, youth clubs, women's organizations and community and church groups.

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, July 19—Formation of a new, joint "Water Lobby" to oppose creation of more "valley authorities" like TVA is credited to Fred D. Beneke of Memphis, Tenn. Beneke is a two-threat man. He is secretary-treasurer of both the national rivers and harbors congress and the Mississippi Valley Flood Control association.

Beneke called the first meeting of representatives of organizations interested in saving the country from the authorities last spring. As a result of his efforts, in April some 29 associations which classify themselves as "land and water users" organizations issued a four-page joint letter to congress. It presented a strong case for letting well enough alone and preserving states' rights. Its highlight was an eight-point indictment against establishing any more government corporations which would have political and economic authority that crossed state lines and were not answerable to congress for the expenditure of their revenues.

This letter was published just before the senate commerce subcommittee opened hearings on Montana Senator James E. Murray's bill to create a new Missouri valley authority. The committee reported against MVA. The letter wasn't the only cause, but it helped. Roy Miller, acting president of the Intra-coastal Canal association, of Louisiana and Texas, chairman of the water lobby's coordinating committee, was a star witness.

Flushed by its first success the lobby expanded in preparation for further MVA hearings in fall. Eleven more land and water users' associations joined up, bringing the total to 31. The 31 have now issued a second blast, 60,000 copies of a pamphlet entitled, "The Authority Issue," written by Judge Clifford H. Stone of the National Reclamation association. It is a blistering attack against the whole idea of river valley development under authorities, calling these regional corporations a change in the American form of government. Spokesmen for the 31 organizations say they are out to promote full discussion of this issue and to stop it if they can.

There is no known compilation of the membership or resources of the 31 organizations in this water lobby. But a close look at the list reveals not only its power, but some strange bedfellows.

Take the National Rivers and Harbors congress, founded in 1901. It works for big-

ger and better congressional appropriations for river and harbor development and gets them. Its president is U. S. Senator John L. McClellan of Arkansas. Four other congressmen and three ex-congressmen are on its board of directors. National Rivers and Harbors congress makes a great point that its annual budget is only \$12,000 a year. But when a pressure group has ten active congressmen among its top officers, maybe money isn't necessary.

By curious coincidence, Senator Overton was chairman of the commerce subcommittee which turned in an unfavorable report on the MVA project last May. And Congressman Whittington was one of the witnesses who made the most devastating attacks on MVA before the Overton committee.

Take the National Reclamation association. It was originally organized in 1898 and was responsible for passage of the act which created the U. S. bureau of reclamation in the department of interior.

The association was reorganized 13 years ago under the leadership of Gov. George H. Dern, former secretary of war. Today it represents over 400 western state water disarounds the department of interior which triets. It is pretty much of a sacred cow has an unwritten rule against ever referring to the association as deriving any of its support from western railroads or private power companies, though it is openly charged with these affiliations by National Farmers Union. At any rate, National Reclamation association is interested primarily in irrigation, secondarily in flood control and not at all in the development of public power except as a by-product of the other two.

The water conservation committee, continuing committee, came into being last September in Chicago. It was a conference called primarily by National Reclamation association. Representatives from 28 states were assembled for the purpose of perfecting amendments to flood control and rivers and harbors legislation then pending before congress. Senators Joseph C. O'Mahoney of Wyoming and Eugene D. Millikin of Colorado attended and the amendments which they sponsored and the conference supported were written into the bills.

These are probably the big three of the 31 organizations now grouped in the water lobby. Who's who in the other 28 will be considered in the next article.

## Side Glances



## McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

### VULNERABLE FOES LOOK FOR SPOT

Anything is apt to happen any minute in a bridge game, especially when you find Ollie Emrich, Cleveland, and some more Western Reservers present. This hand came up recently at the

None	None	None	None
AK8743	AK8743	AK8743	AK8743
Q10876	Q10876	Q10876	Q10876
42	42	42	42
A 106	A 106	A 106	A 106
Q J 109	Q J 109	Q J 109	Q J 109
3	3	3	3
A K J 5	A K J 5	A K J 5	A K J 5
3	3	3	3
None	None	None	None
K Q J 9 8 7 5	K Q J 9 8 7 5	K Q J 9 8 7 5	K Q J 9 8 7 5
9 5	9 5	9 5	9 5
Q 10 9 7	Q 10 9 7	Q 10 9 7	Q 10 9 7
Rubber—E-W. vul.	Rubber—E-W. vul.	Rubber—E-W. vul.	Rubber—E-W. vul.
South West North East	South West North East	South West North East	South West North East
4♦ Double Pass 5♦	4♦ Double Pass 5♦	4♦ Double Pass 5♦	4♦ Double Pass 5♦
Pass Pass Double Pass	Pass Pass Double Pass	Pass Pass Double Pass	Pass Pass Double Pass
Pass Pass	Pass Pass	Pass Pass	Pass Pass
Opening—AK. 20	Opening—AK. 20	Opening—AK. 20	Opening—AK. 20

Ambassador club in Cleveland's Hollenden hotel. Emrich felt that, because his opponents were vulnerable, they might try to find a spot to play the hand. They did—and believe it or not, East

### Questions & Answers

Q—Have the Nazi bans on the playing of compositions of Felix Mendelssohn and other great Jewish composers been lifted in Germany?

A—They have, definitely. They are being included regularly in concerts in occupied areas.

Q—How many tanks were produced in the U. S. last year?

A—According to a recent report by WPB Chairman J. A. Krug, 17,565.

Q—Who won the first national school safety poster contest conducted recently by the American Automobile association?

A—Charles R. Dickinson, jr., Cass Technical high school, Detroit. First prize was a \$50 war bond and \$100 cash.

Q—How many explorers have reached the South Pole?

A—Three: Roald Amundsen, Norway, Dec. 14, 1911; Capt. Robert F. Scott, Great Britain, Jan. 18, 1912; and Rear-Adm. Richard E. Byrd, U. S. by airplane, Nov. 29, 1929.

### IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago, July 19  
Juniors in the YMCA swimming classes had a water carnival. The contests were both individual and collective, for the respective teams into which the juniors have been divided, tried for first places to totals.

### IN FORMER YEARS

T. H. Goodhue went to Idaho points last evening on lumber business.

Mrs. B. B. Nutter, has returned from a visit with friends and relatives in Iowa.

### IN FORMER YEARS

15 Years Ago, July 19  
In a number of sections in the valley, cutting of wheat has already started.

Mrs. Mary McKenzie has returned to her home at Summerville following a business trip to Portland.

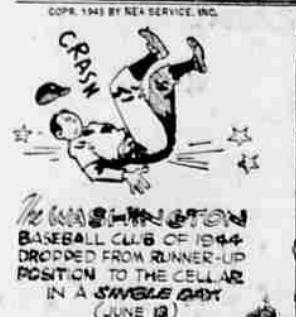
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Eckley of Fruitdale, Chet Bidwell of Island City and Mrs. Mattie Golden of La Grande left for Portland where they will attend the Union county picnic which will be held day after tomorrow.

### IN FORMER YEARS

10 Years Ago, July 19  
A demonstration of the George L. Baker first aid car was staged at the Triangle park at noon yesterday by Capt. Fred Roberts of the Portland fire department, with a large audience present. At the same time it was made known that a strong movement is under way here to finance a similar car for this city.

Miss Sarah Williamson and Miss Florence Smith, principal and instructor at Willow school, respectively, are on a tour of national parks, including Yosemite, Yellowstone and Glacier, as well as stops at other points of interest.

## This Curious World



Next: Odds in the Black Hills.