

# EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer  
Frank Schiro, Publisher

SATURDAY EVENING, JULY 21, 1945

Page Two

## Patience, Perseverance, Perspicacity, Perspiration Does It



### Civilian Soldiers

When the war is over and the dust and debris have cleared, many in the armed services will emerge from the conflict with honors and medals, earned with sweat and blood and honestly deserved.

Not all people who deserve decorations will get them, however, and we have in mind many civilians who have contributed much to the war effort, most with sweat and even some with blood, to keep the wheels of the nation turning.

We are thinking of the formerly retired farmers of Union county and the formerly retired businessmen. We are thinking of the housewives with business skills or training, who, though they did not need the work and had plenty to do elsewhere, returned to their former or other jobs "just to help out." We are thinking of men who have accepted the added burdens of wartime work without flinching — carrying through.

Many a business has been enabled to continue operating by such persons, whose patriotism and desire to help society is as deep as that of any in the armed service. Such tasks have been more difficult to perform and with less fanfare and other inspiration have been a chore, day in and day out, but many have stuck with their work.

Farmers, who, say ten years ago, had thought their days of labor had ended again have proved their mettle, going back to produce more than their farms

have ever produced in history.

In view of the criticism heaped on a certain section of the population which has considered the war a field day and an excuse to pander to their own selfishness, it brightens up our outlook on humanity to consider the "civilian soldiers." It may be that some day a medal will be cast for this group for presentation by some civic or public body.

### Another Bottleneck

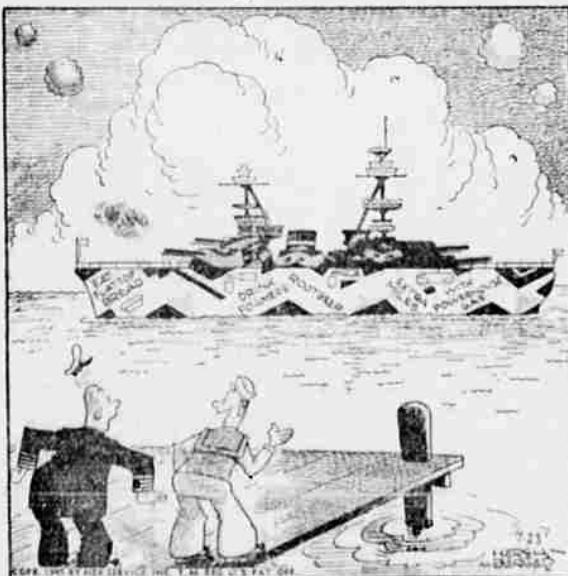
Since reconversion has been under discussion it has been assumed that the steel industry, at least, could switch from military to civilian production with no trouble or delay. But now the industry being able to raise the money that the country's steelmakers have \$200,000,000 worth of work to do when their military contracts are finished.

For one thing, say Steel Facts, wide-sheet mills will have to be shifted back to peacetime ways. A lot of repairing, and so on.

Nobody is worrying about the steel industry being able to raise the money for this job. But a \$200,000,000 reconversion job will take time. And that delay will be reflected and magnified in other industries whose products the public is eagerly awaiting.

All of which is just another reminder not to get too hopeful of a lot of needed civilian goods appearing quickly. As Mayor LaGuardia tells his radio listeners each week: "Patience and fortitude."

### Funny Business



"I think the camouflage artist sold some advertising space!"

### SO THEY SAY

You can't tell by looking at anybody these days whether you ought to take up a collection for him or ask him for a loan.

I walked with a cane off the hospital ship when I came back from England. I swore I wouldn't get off unless I walked, and I did it.

Flight Officer M. W. Doyle, RCAF bomber pilot.

Only one thing is required of the Japanese people, namely, to have double the perseverance of the enemy and, in the end, we shall stand victorious.

—Auntie Nishisaburo Nomura, former Japanese envoy to U. S.

We fought a Revolutionary war over manipulation of taxes to enrage a people. Ever since that time we have had to beat back attempts to misuse this powerful instrument.

—Dubuque, Ia., Telegraph-Herald.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — It's being kept very hush-hush, but something important is brewing behind the scenes regarding peace with Japan. Highest officials won't say a word about it, not even to some of their cabinet colleagues.

However, peace feelers which have come from the Japs have been much more than feelers—despite Secretary Grew's denials. One of them was debated by the combined chiefs of staff for more than a week. It proposed the Japs withdraw from Korea and Manchuria and all China if (1) they could keep the emperor, and (2) they would not be invaded.

Meanwhile, Joe Grew and the army and navy have prepared a directive outlining the minimum terms we would accept. This is one of the most highly guarded documents in the government. However, it can be stated on high authority the Grew peace plan would permit the Japs to retain Emperor Hirohito.

It can also be stated there is considerable difference of opinion inside the administration regarding the Grew memorandum, and some of his colleagues inside the state department, including assistant Secretary Will Clayton and assistant Secretary Dean Acheson, are vigorously opposed.

**Mrs. Truman's Troubles**  
Some people were of the opinion Mrs. Roosevelt was unique in her tendency to get involved in Negro controversies. However, Mrs. Truman already has experienced an off-the-record embarrassment.

The doors of the summer White House at Independence, Mo., have not been opened to a single representative of press or radio since Mrs. Truman and her daughter arrived early in June.

But not long ago, Mrs. Truman graciously made an appointment with representatives of the All-American Newsreel company of Chicago, a Negro organization, to enter the summer White House and take pictures of Vietta Garr, the colored cook. They were ed shots of her working in the summer White

House kitchen.

When this leaked to local newsmen, however, they put up such a wall that Fred Canfield, U. S. marshal, appeared at the summer White House at 9 o'clock on the morning the pictures were to be taken, and had a talk with the first lady.

In addition to being the chief federal official in those parts, Fred was President Truman's sergeant in the last war, and a friend of the family. Just what the U. S. marshal told Mrs. Truman is not known, but later that day the colored newsreel men returned to Chicago—without their pictures.

**What Germany Pays**  
Completely obscured by the Big Three conference are the reparations talks now taking place in Moscow. Upon their outcome will partially depend whether Germany will be permitted to rise to power again.

Already the cards have been laid down as to what we want Germany to pay. Here is the inside story of the proposed terms:

The Soviet delegation proposed (1) that Germany pay \$20,000,000,000; (2) that this be paid off in a five-year period; (3) that it be paid in the form of labor, goods and factories—the factories to be exported from Germany to other countries, not left in Germany.

The Russians also proposed that this \$20,000,000,000 be divided as follows: \$10,000,000,000 to the Soviet; \$4,000,000,000 to the U. S. A.; \$4,000,000,000 to Britain; and \$2,000,000,000 to be divided among the other European war victims.

The American delegation headed by handsome Ed Pouley, the big oil and rye operator, proposed somewhat similar terms, except that the U. S. A. would receive a larger share of Nazi reparations.

Note—The British delegation, when called upon to give its proposals, replied that it would like to have permission to fly back and forth to London each week to consult, since it did not trust its communication lines in Moscow.

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

"From now on I'm illiterate," said the corporal who came back to this country to re-marry his wife after their marriage had broken up due to V-mail arguments.

Explained the corporal who has lost faith in the written word: "One word led to another and the first thing we knew we were quarreling by V-mail and the next thing I knew I was in the process of becoming a grass widow by consent."

The corporal didn't say what subject led to the quarrel—but it is safe to bet that either he or his wife let one of these forbidden topics sneak into a letter—and then the fireworks.

Mention of an attractive member of the opposite sex.

An account of the wonderful time one or the other had at a dance.

Bringing up an old argument or mentioning a subject that has proved dangerous in the past.

Making a nasty crack about in-laws.

Over-doing the cheerful note, without bal-

ancing it by an occasional mention of loneliness—so that the partner writing such letter seems to be a little too well-adjusted to living alone and appears to be enjoying his freedom.

Concern over how the other person is spending his share of the government's check.

Most of those topics are dangerous ones when a couple is living together. But for a husband and wife living under the same roof—the quarrels likely to result from them can usually be made up, if not always forgotten.

But for a husband and wife separated by thousands of miles, they are pure dynamite. For while it is easy to quarrel by V-mail, making up by the same method is pretty unsatisfactory.

The corporal is being a little drastic in swearing off writing entirely. But any couple separated by the war and water ought to be as careful of what they say in a letter as they used to be of what they said to each other before the morning cup of coffee.

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, July 21—First objective of the so-called "water lobby" in congress is to fight the creation of a Missouri Valley authority. A bill to set up an MVA is now before congress. It was introduced by Senator James E. Murray of Montana. Hearings on the bill were held before a senate commerce subcommittee last April and in May a report was made opposing the project. Score round one for the 31 organizations making up the water lobby.

Murray's MVA bill has two more chances in September. First before an irrigation subcommittee, then before an agriculture subcommittee. Battle lines are now being drawn for these later fights.

It must of course be understood that there is a strong lobby supporting MVA, but it is not as old and not as experienced and not as well coordinated as the water users' lobby in opposition. Included in the pro-MVA lobby are the National Farmers' union of tenants and small landholders, the A. F. of L., the C. I. O., the public power advocates, the supporters of the Tennessee Valley authority who endlessly sing its praises as "the perfect state," and a number of new civic organizations recently formed in St. Louis and Missouri basin. In early July, they all met at Omaha, formed the Missouri Valley regional committee for MVA and started out to get a million signatures on a petition for congress to create an MVA.

MVA, however, isn't the only target which the 31 organizations in the water lobby are spouting at. There are four other bills to create other authorities pending before congress. The water-lobby wants to drown them all till dead.

Most ambitious of the other authority proposals is Mississippi congressman John Rankin's bill to divide the whole United States into nine areas and put an authority over each one—Atlantic Seaboard east of the Alleghenies, Great Lakes and Ohio Valley, Missouri, Columbia, Arkansas and Colorado Valleys, Southwestern authority for the desert states and a California authority to function west of the Sierras. It is admittedly too far reaching to have much of a chance. Washington Senator Hugh B. Mitchell proposes a Columbia Valley authority, a CVA for the three northwestern states and a bit of Canada.

Ohio Congressman Bob Bender proposes an Ohio Valley authority; OVA would cover most of Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia, with bites into west Pennsylvania, north Tennessee, southeast Illinois.

South Carolina Congressman Butler B. Hare proposes an SV, Savannah Valley authority, taking in narrow strips on the Carolina-Georgia line.

But these five bills by no means represent all the valley authority thinking and planning being done in Washington.

Department of interior's bureau of reclamation has studies under way to divide the entire west—roughly everything west of Kansas City—into some 20 valley developments: Rio Grande, Red, Arkansas, Colorado, Columbia, Central, Missouri, and so on.

In fact, Ickes has a Missouri Valley plan of his own already worked out. And the 31 organizations making up the water lobby have seized upon the bureau of reclamation plan as the principal reason why no other plan and no MVA is needed to replace it. The water lobby argues that even if the Murray bill is passed and a new MVA created, all it could do for two years would be to study what has already been planned by bureau of reclamation and war department's corps of engineers.

Army engineers are in a similar fix. They have traditionally supervised flood control and navigable rivers. Under such an expanded valley authority program as is now before congress, all this supervision over navigable streams would be taken away from the war department and given to the authorities. Army engineers aren't interested in hydro-electric power except incidentally. When they build a dam it's for flood control, and the army engineers have hosts of friends and supporters in the states where there are recurrent floods.

The powerful water lobby, supporting both engineers and bureau of reclamation as established old line agencies with whom they are accustomed to do business, is in there fighting to preserve these older government agencies and to skip all this fancy, New Dealish valley authority stuff.

The lobby's case against the Tennessee Valley authority will be presented in the next issue.

### Side Glances



"I don't think it will be plundering—after all, we have to feed the liberated peoples!"

### McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

#### DOUBLE OR PASS— THAT IS QUESTION

It looks as if I stirred up a hornet's nest with the hand I gave you recently, the one about whether you should bid one club or one spade. Now along comes this hand. The question is, what should you do over East's bid of two hearts? Now please don't bid two no trump, even though the opponents are vulnerable. If you can take eight tricks at no trump with this hand, you certainly are going to beat them

one-spade response.

Hazen said he would be willing to wager four to one that if his partner passed the two-heart double, he could set the hand. However, von Zedwitz was not sure that it was a good double at rubber bridge. If you double and they make it, you have lost a terrific amount, while if you double and your partner does take you out in two spades, you probably won't make it. If you don't double, it may be very difficult for East to place the cards correctly, and thus you may defeat the contract that could be made if doubled.

♠	7 4	♠	7 4
♥	A K 9	♥	A K 9
♦	A 10 6 2	♦	A 10 6 2
♣	A 6 4 2	♣	A 6 4 2
E-W vul.			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♠	2 ♥
23			

badly. The question is: should you double or should you pass?

It is agreed by most of the experts that in duplicate match point scoring you should double, but there is a question whether you should double at rubber bridge. Helen Sobel, Waldemar von Zedwitz and Lee Hazen all agree that if you are playing with a good partner, you can safely double even at rubber bridge, because the partner will take the double out if he has made a week

#### Questions & Answers

Q—What was the U. S. consumption of raw materials used in manufacture of steel from Pearl Harbor to V-E day?

A—Steel industry consumed 375,000,000 tons of iron ore, 187,000,000 tons of coke, and 155,000,000 tons of scrap.

Q—What is the speed of sound?

A—Approximately 1,266 feet per second through dry atmosphere at 100 degrees temperature.

Q—How many overseas troops are supplied by ships?

A—More than 5,500,000. One ton of supplies must be shipped for each combatant every month.

### IN FORMER YEARS

#### 30 Years Ago

Mrs. O. L. Wall has gone to Minnesota to visit relatives, expecting to spend several weeks at Mankato. She will be joined by Mr. Wall later in September and the family will return to La Grande together.

Jack Kline of the city water department was among the 40 or so who left last evening from La Grande and nearby points for the beach.

#### 15 Years Ago

Bliss Leslie has returned from a week trip to the Lake Basin and Eagle Cap mountain in Walla Walla county. He was accompanied on the trip by Harry Jackson of Joseph.

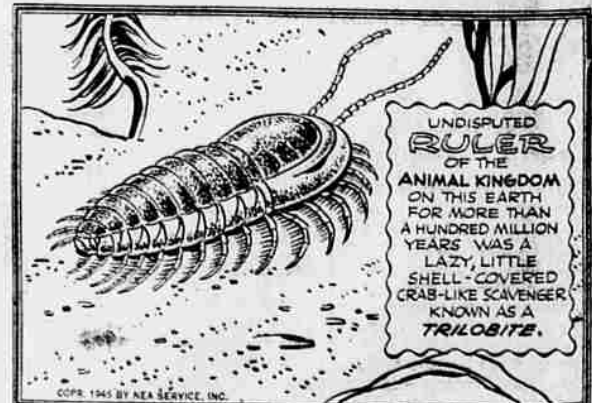
Miss Edris Maguire left for Portland after spending a vacation here with her mother, Mrs. S. B. Morgan. Yesterday Mr. and Mrs. Morgan and Miss Maguire drove to Wallowa lake for the day and visited with friends in Enterprise.

#### 10 Years Ago

Frieda Klopfenstein, accompanied by her sister, Marguerite Klopfenstein, of La Grande visited at Enterprise this week. Frieda is now engaged in social work at Decatur, Ill., and drove west with a friend on a vacation. She will return to Illinois shortly and expects to take up more college studies before returning to the west.

Miss Emma McAnish, who has been spending the last few months with relatives at Kingman, Ariz., has returned to her home in the Valeria district.

### This Curious World



#### Quoting Odds

EVEN A STOPPED CLOCK GIVES THE CORRECT TIME TWICE A DAY, SAID GEORGE A. BAIRD, HONELL, NEW YORK.



A TICK HAS SIX LEGS WHEN YOUNG, BUT SEVEN LEGS AFTER IT BECOMES AN ADULT.

NEXT: If we leveled all the mountains.