

EDITORIAL PAGE

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How About a Little Contribution, Joe?



Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Secretary of State Jimmy Byrnes already has two key men up his sleeve for top jobs in the state department. Unless something changes his mind before he gets back from Potsdam, the new under secretary of state, replacing Joe Grew, will be Spruille Braden, now U. S. ambassador to Argentina; while this assistant secretary for Latin America, replacing Nelson Rockefeller, will be Norman Armour, now U. S. ambassador to Spain.

The promotion of Braden to be under secretary will be a direct slap at the Argentines, where crowds have been booing Braden and hand-bills have been posted all over Buenos Aires denouncing him because of an accident in the Braden copper mines in Chile.

Braden is a diplomat with plenty of career experience. He worked on the fringes of the old Roosevelt brain trust in 1932, and FDR considered appointing him ambassador to Chile in 1933. However, there was too much resentment from Chilean labor because of Braden's heavy copper interests there and he was given one of the hardest diplomatic jobs in the western hemisphere instead. He was made a diplomatic trouble-shooter to iron out the Chaco war between Bolivia and Paraguay, and other troubles in the western hemisphere. Later, Braden became ambassador to Colombia and Cuba where he did an A-1 job.

Norman Armour, slated to succeed Nelson Rockefeller, is one of the outstanding career diplomats, having been ambassador to Argentina and Chile, and minister to Canada and Haiti. When Braden leaves Argentina as ambassador, his post will not be filled—a slap at the Argentine fascists, and also indirectly at the state department group who rushed us into Argentine recognition at San Francisco.

England's Ex-King

There were half a dozen empty chairs last week as High Fulton, former consul for the Truman committee, hosted a luncheon in Washington's swank Hotel Statler for the Duke of Windsor, Fulton, whose New York

firm represents the Duke's interests in this country, had invited a small group of high Washington officials and the entire membership of the Mead committee (formerly the Truman committee) at the Duke's special request.

Half a dozen busy senators found time to rush to the Statler for the luncheon, which they described as a pleasant affair with no particular significance.

High spot of the luncheon was furnished by Wyoming's Senator Joe O'Mahoney, who produced a letter from an Episcopalian minister in his state. The letter related the plight of an Englishman who had married an American woman and settled in Wyoming. The Englishman now wants to be naturalized, the minister wrote, but is running into difficulty because his wife is determined to press charges of assault against him.

If he didn't beat his wife, he should have, the minister wrote O'Mahoney.

The letter was shown to the Duke, who remarked:

"I can testify that the church of England is peculiar about domestic life. Here is a minister of the church in apparent approval of domestic disharmony. Yet when I decided to marry, the church of England insisted that I step down as king because my wife-to-be had been divorced.

"The amusing thing to me," continued the former king of England, "is that the church of England was originally founded by Henry VIII in order to provide clerical sanction for his several divorces."

Soldier Slap-Down

Another Patton soldier slap-down on a lesser scale has just been settled by General Eisenhower, resulting in a reprimand for Brig. Gen. Julius Slack.

General Slack, an artillery commander in Patton's third army, was reprimanded for "intemperate and reprehensible actions and language" toward 22 enlisted men in an alleged rape case.

Slack had accused three enlisted men of See WASHINGTON... Page 4

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

An American service man returns to this country and is shocked to find that something has happened to American girls in his absence. They have become in his words, "man crazy."

He doesn't like the way the girls have taken over the hunt, do the telephoning instead of waiting to be rushed, etc. Perhaps American girls are unbearably forward these days. But why wouldn't they be?

All they hear about the girls of foreign countries is how they chase American servicemen. And naturally they get to thinking that if they don't want to be completely overlooked themselves, they had better use bold methods of making themselves noticed. In all likelihood, it just hasn't occurred to American girls that American men might be fed up with being chased and fought over, and that the best method for landing them at this point is playing hard to get.

Then, too, American girls are worried about the possibility of never getting a hus-

band. They know there aren't going to be enough young men to go around.

So current idea seems to be, "Get a man quick and marry him while you can." That is why so many girls are marrying at 17 or 18—girls who in ordinary times would have gone on to school for a few more years, and would have taken a while to pick and choose a husband.

Then, too, there is this point that men—especially those who have been stationed in the Pacific—should understand. The girls are fed up with dateless nights, bored to death with the last few dull, drab years, and so glad to see the servicemen returning that they are in no mood to feign indifference.

They probably are making a great mistake in giving the men such a rush. But it isn't hard to see why they are so "man crazy," and under the circumstances they should be forgiven for their lack of reticence.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, July 27.—Not all the war criminals are in Germany and Japan. Right here at home, the records show that almost every day for the past four years, an average of one major war fraud against the U. S. government has been caught.

An expense item in a cost-plus-fixed-fee contract is padded. Competitors conspire to enter fixed bids for government contracts. A government procurement officer is bribed. An inspector is persuaded to pass defective war supplies. Raw materials furnished on government priority for war production and diverted into commercial channels.

Not all these defrauders of the government get caught. Unlike big fish, the ones that get away you never hear about. But in many of the fraud cases a patriotic secretary with a sweetie at the front won't like what the boss is trying to get away with and will report what skulduggery goes on to the FBI.

Or maybe it'll be a vindictive cuss who gets cheated out of what he considers a fair share of the graft and gravy and squeals on his pals. Or a bidder who loses a contract will reveal how fraud beat him out. Or somebody's conscience will bite him hard enough to make him confess. Or army and navy inspectors will catch crooks redhanded. Or congressional committees will uncover dirt which is passed on to the department of justice for prosecution.

When reports of these kinds come in, they are first investigated by the FBI, then turned over to the war frauds section of the department of justice. Over the past four years the department has been piling up a record of convictions, fines and imprisonment for U. S. war criminals. Today it is preparing to move in on frauds uncovered in the business of winding up the war effort, cancelling contracts and disposing of surpluses.

The war frauds section of the department of justice is small. Some 20 lawyers in Washington and another 80 in the field. But they have the help of 96 U. S. district attorneys and the FBI investigators. Tom C. Clark, the new attorney general, was head of the War Frauds section when it was first organized. John Darsey, who came into the section with Clark in the spring of 1942, heads up the work today.

The result of all this activity, prosecuting war frauds while they're still fresh instead of waiting to clean house after the war is

over, is that World War Two will have a record of less fraud and more criminals caught than any war in U. S. history. In the last war, most of the profiteers and perpetrators of war frauds got away because no prosecutions were begun till after the war was over. Then witnesses disappeared, company records were lost or destroyed and the statute of limitations ran out. In the general public post-war apathy only 37 indictments against war criminals were obtained and only two were convicted.

The government contractor who deliberately tries to commit a criminal fraud is of course the exception. Today out of the millions of war contracts let and out of the millions of citizens now on government payrolls, only a small fraction of one percent shows evidence of fraud.

The war record to date reveals 9600 complaints of fraud referred to the Department of Justice. Of these cases, 7,700 investigations have been completed and in 1,180—roughly one case in seven—sufficient evidence was found to file criminal indictments, charging fraud. These indictments involved 1,250 individuals and 95 corporations.

In the cases disposed of, over half of the accused plead guilty—623 individuals and 46 corporations. In the cases that went to trial, 153 individuals and 13 corporations were convicted.

These being criminal indictments, nearly all the sentences carry imprisonment and fines. Sentences vary from three months to 12 years, with a year and a day being a common sentence. Fines imposed total \$1,272,000.

Among the more sensational cases in which convictions were obtained are Anaconda Wire and Copper, for furnishing defective signal corps wire; Antonelli Fireworks company of New York, for underloading bombs and grenades with explosives; Samuel Buckel and company of New York, for furnishing 656,000 pounds of defective fried eggs at a dollar a pound; Sullivan Dry Dock of Brooklyn, for making false claims on repair of ships.

Side Glances



"Dad's crabbing because he can't get tickets to take up to a nice vacation resort this year, Mom—is it safe to ask him to give us the money instead?"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY America's Card Authority

LETTING FOES MAKE MISTAKES WINS HANDS

Quite often you will get yourself into a hopeless contract, but occasionally, if you will give your opponents a chance to make a mistake, you may swindle them out of a trick. Now, believe it or not, I actually saw one pair

went in with the ace. A diamond was returned, and this was trumped in dummy. Declarer then cashed dummy's ace of hearts and, when West's ten spot dropped, he decided that the four missing hearts were in the East hand. At this point he led the jack of hearts from dummy, hoping East would make the mistake of not covering. That is exactly what East did. He played a small heart, so declarer discarded a small club. West trumped, but now you can see that the declarer will be able to ruff one of his losing clubs and discard the other on the king of hearts.

♠ K 7 5 2	♥ A K J 7 6 5 2	♦ 6 3	♣ None
♠ A 10 9	♥ 10	♦ Q 8 4 3	♣ A Q 10 8
♠ 7 4	♥ Q 10 8 7	♦ 4 3	♣ J 9
♠ 4 3	♥ 4 3	♦ J 9	♣ 4 3
Dealer			
♠ Q J 8 6	♥ 9	♦ K J 2	♣ A K 6 5 2
Rubber—Both vul.			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♥	2 ♦
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
3 N.T.	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening—♦ 9. 28			

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago, July 28
A party consisting of Senator George E. Chamberlain, Mrs. C. B. Shelton, his secretary, and Mr. and Mrs. Nolan Skiff, motored from Hot Lake to the head of Wallowa Lake, returning to La Grande later. Senator Chamberlain departed for Portland the evening of his return.

W. A. Barrett, state deputy of the Knights of Columbus, today gave out the appointment of J. H. Peare of La Grande as district deputy of that order for Eastern Oregon country. This makes the fourth successive appointment of Peare to this office. The district comprises all of the state of Oregon east of The Dalles.

BARBS

It's strange how little kids like to eat green apples. Their tummies just ache for them.

Too many reformers who set out to right the world's wrongs wind up wronging the world's rights.

Oh for the good old days when the neighbors' chickens used to stray into our garden!

We're more interested in what our bombers are spreading in Japan than in the peace rumors others are spreading.

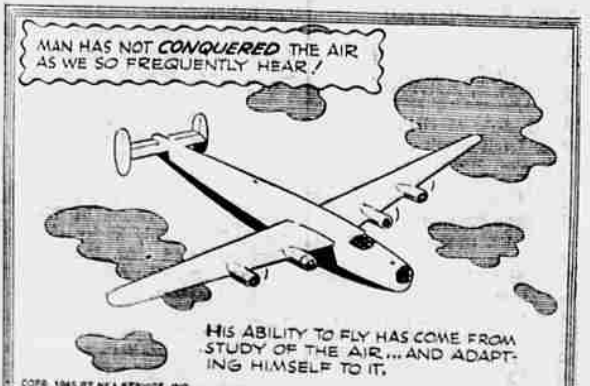
One of the hardest, yet best, things to remember is to forget your troubles!

Butter has been dropped eight points. Whee — now maybe we can have it on Sunday!

15 Years Ago, July 28
The La Grande U. P. Athletic club took three of the most important places in the junior track elimination events at the O.-W. Bonneville picnic yesterday, attended by around 3,000 people. Fifty railroad employees went from La Grande. Corwyn Berry won first place in the 100-yard dash with Willie Torrence second. Paul Walker won the high jump.

10 Years Ago, July 28
The La Grande Tennis club, victor over Pendleton and Boise recently, added another scalp to its collection this summer when it defeated the Baker team on the local courts 10 matches to two. Dr. and Mrs. C. E. Branner left on a vacation tour of Alaska. They plan to be away from their home in La Grande until the middle of August.

This Curious World



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

Calling the Shot

The first question put by an English-speaking Jap officer to members of an American boarding party inspecting a Japanese hospital ship was: "Is Babe Ruth still alive?"

It was a natural question about an athlete who at one time was a great hero to the Japanese people. Ruth's reputation preceded him to Japan when he went there with a group of other American ball players in 1934. The Babe lived up to his advance notices, and he was trailed by cheering thousands wherever he went.

The Japs were great baseball enthusiasts, whether for love of the game or because of their desire to emulate and equal American accomplishments in every field. At any rate they practiced the game with a rather amusing seriousness. Many of their players achieved through this diligence a considerable proficiency in the mechanics of the game. But it was a case of "good field, no hit." They just didn't have the physical power to hit for distance.

And so, to them, Babe Ruth was not only a hero, but a symbol of that combination of strength, ability and audacity which their best players could never hope to attain. They may have shouted "Banzai" when Ruth hit one out of the park, but they must also have

felt a deep envy. Watching him, the more perceptive may have realized that, in other fields besides baseball, Americans could do things better and more easily than the Japs, for all their striving.

Two years before Ruth visited Japan he performed perhaps the most audacious feat in baseball history. In the third world series game between the Yankees and the Cubs, he stepped to bat, pointed to the center field bleachers, deliberately took two strikes, then poled the next pitch precisely where he had indicated it would be — into the bleachers for a home run.

Japanese fans surely read of that feat and marveled at it. And recent event may have recalled it to their minds. For Admiral Halsey has stolen a page out of Ruth's book.

The Admiral pointed the guns of the third fleet at Japan as boldly and confidently as the Babe pointed his bat at the bleachers. He told the Japs where he was going to hit, and proceeded to deliver. He dared them to stop him, and they couldn't.

So there is dismal assurance to all Japanese ball fans that Babe Ruth and the power and ability that he represents are still alive. With nations, as with ball players, power and ability don't develop fully over night. But they are potentially there to start with.

The Japs must know this. And even though they still have some turns at bat coming, they must also know what the final score will be.

SO THEY SAY

Confessedly, the Gospel of Jesus Christ has in it a saving grace, for wherever men have accepted it and have lived in accordance with it, they have realized the Kingdom of Heaven in their own souls.

—Marion, Ird., Chronicle-Tribune.

We must stop talking about women as a category and begin to treat and think of them as individuals.

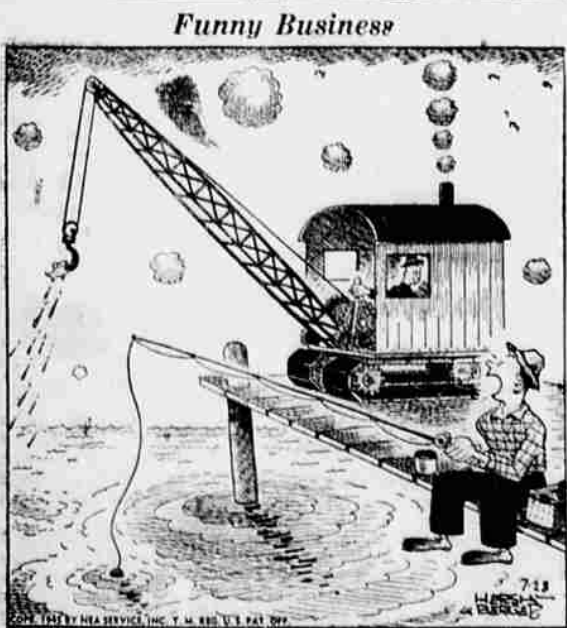
—Rep. Chase Going Woodhouse of Connecticut.

In the past five years, the United States has witnessed the development of the largest emergency training program in history.

—Dr. George F. Zook, president, American Council of Education.

When thousands of men are quitting a plant, the manager doesn't sit inside at his desk, he gets out and around.

—Gleason Gaffney, shipbuilding yard manager.



"Frankly, I think you're over-equipped!"