

# EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

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## Over-Developed in the Wrong Place



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

**THOUGHT FOR TODAY**  
 Unlimited power corrupts the possessor.—Pitt.

### Expendable Aircraft

The United States government and its tax-paying citizens have spent billions to build the mighty force of military air power so indispensable to the defeat of Germany and the impending defeat of Japan. And since the road to victory is not measured in dollars, the people of this country have never questioned or begrudged the vast sums that have made this air force possible.

But perhaps all of us do not realize fully how little of that expenditure can ever be recovered, in spite of the thousands of aircraft already declared surplus and the thousands more that will be left when the war is won. Military aircraft are basically self-propelled artillery. And in the final analysis, they are as expendable as the bullets and bombs that they carry.

The surplus property board has reached that conclusion after a commendably thorough study and some understandable hesitancy. Some weeks ago it ordered the salvaging and scrapping of all unusable surplus aircraft, which includes a vast majority of surplus combat planes.

The SPB hopes that aluminum alloy and a chemically-produced pure aluminum can be recovered from aircraft scrap. But as yet the SPB has announced no policy in regard to surplus airplane engines and propellers.

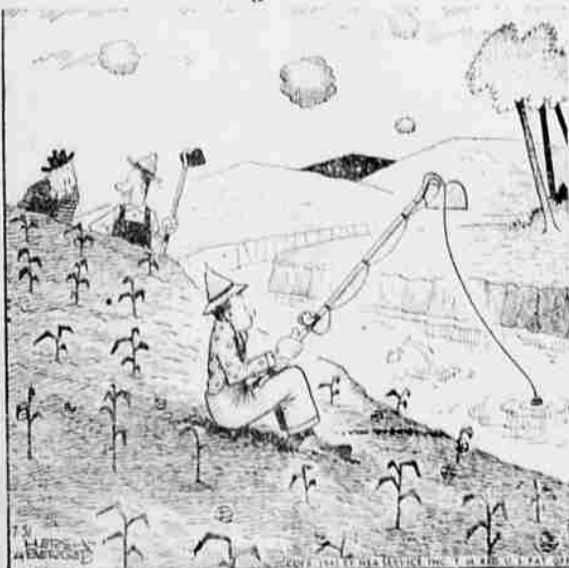
Many war-used and replacement engines and propellers are already surplus. There seems little that can be done with most propellers. For example, one four-blade propeller of a bomber weighs more than the average two-passenger personal plane.

There has been some discussion of converting the engines, with their high horsepower and high consumption of highly refined fuel, to commercial purposes. But no satisfactory solution has been reached, if indeed it is possible.

All safe and practical salvage of war material should be undertaken. It represents competition to civilian industry, but that is unavoidable. However, it should be done as quickly as possible. For delay in deciding whether or not to salvage, which carries the threat of a sudden dumping of salvaged goods on the future market, is a hazard to industrial planning and the creation of jobs.

The hazard is particularly great in aircraft manufacturing. The war has boomed it into the precarious position of being the country's biggest industry, and at best it is due for a terrific peacetime contraction. So it ought to prove an eventual boon to reconversion and re-employment if the SPB would fully accept the unhappy fact that war is wasteful and unbusinesslike, and that some of war's most expensive tools become useless at the war's end.

### Funny Business



"Sort of a combination tool—comes in handy when he gets to the end of a row of corn!"

### SO THEY SAY

The defeat of Germany did not automatically wipe out the carefully cultivated anti-Semitism in both Germany and Axis-occupied Europe.

—Sen. Owen Brewster of Maine and Rep. Emanuel Celler of New York in joint letter to President Harry S. Truman.

Advances in science mean more jobs, higher wages, shorter hours, more abundant crops, more leisure for recreation, for study, for learning how to live without the deadening drudgery which has been the burden of the common man for ages past.

—Dr. Vannevar Bush, director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development.

The need for qualified workers in all categories (of child-caring agencies) is now critical and the welfare of the youngsters is at stake.

—William M. Griffin, welfare council official.

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Real facts in the resignation of Henry Morgenthau as longest consecutive secretary of the treasury in history are as follows:

Morgenthau had a tip Judge Fred Vinson might be appointed as his successor a few months later, certainly before the end of the year. So he went over to the White House to get the thing straightened out. Morgenthau told Truman he would be glad to "stick around until V-J day, but it was very difficult for him to work effectively with rumors constantly circulating that he was going to be replaced.

"That's all right," replied the president. "I'll deny them."

"I'll believe you, returned Morgenthau, "but unfortunately the public won't."

He had in mind the frequent Truman denials Stettinius' resignation would not be accepted.

"In order to quiet these rumors," Morgenthau persisted, "I'd like to have something from you in writing."

"Well, I'll have to think that over," spared Truman.

"There's nothing to think over," countered the treasury chief. "After all I've been around here long enough for people to know me. So if you have to think it over, I'd better write out my resignation right now."

Truman demurred at this, but Morgenthau insisted.

"After all," he said, "it's only right you should have your own man."

So the letter of resignation was handed in immediately; and later in the day, Truman called a special press conference to announce it. In the interim Judge Sam Rosenman was asked to draft an appropriate letter to Morgenthau for Truman's signature, thanking him for his long services. But Rosenman wasn't familiar with all of Morgenthau's record, had to send over to the treasury for certain facts, and in the end, the letter almost wasn't ready for the Truman press conference.

All this happened July 5. At that time it was announced Morgenthau would stay on until after Truman got back from Potsdam. How this didn't happen is the most important part of the story.

**Byrnes Undermined Morgenthau**  
 After President Truman got on the Cruis-

er Augusta, he changed his mind about having Morgenthau remain until he got home. And it was Jimmy Byrnes who helped him change it. Byrnes has long disliked Morgenthau. The two are scarcely on speaking terms.

With the secretary of state and the president on the same ship, Henry Morgenthau would have been president of the United States if anything had happened to that ship. Byrnes rammed this home to Truman, and from mid-Atlantic, Truman radioed Judge Rosenman to explain the situation to Morgenthau and ask him to step out of office immediately rather than wait for Truman's return from Potsdam. The official announcement Morgenthau had some important decisions which he thought Vinson should make was all poppycock. Actually Truman wanted Vinson to be president of the United States in case anything happened to him and Byrnes.

### Bretton Woods Delegate?

But in order to make the step-down more palatable for Morgenthau, Judge Rosenman told him Truman wanted to make Morgenthau American representative on the new Bretton Woods board. Just as Stettinius became U. S. delegate to the United Nations, Morgenthau would be U. S. delegate to the Bretton Woods project which he fathered.

Morgenthau naturally was pleased. He had been quite willing to step out anyway, but he was delighted Truman wanted to recognize his tireless pioneering for international economic stability.

Accordingly, Judge Rosenman prepared a statement for Truman's ok, making Morgenthau the permanent U. S. delegate to Bretton Woods. It was radioed to Truman immediately. But nothing happened. Truman never answered the radio. Perhaps Jimmy Byrnes sat on this idea, too. At any rate, Henry Morgenthau, who had been taken up on the heights and given a big promise, stepped out of office a sad and disappointed man.

### Morgenthau's War Record

When the final history of the Roosevelt administration is written, the place of Henry Morgenthau will be very near the center of the stage.

By that time, historians will not remember the perennially doleful face which caused WASHINGTON . . . Page 4

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

When the wife of a sailor, credited with having the largest family of any service man in this war, set the number of their children at 14, her husband contradicted her. Said he: "Fourteen ain't right, I've only got 13." But on a later recount the sailor admitted: "By golly, 14 is right! Must have just lost count."

Any father ought to know better than to argue with the little wofan on any point that concerns the children—even on such a minor statistical matter as which one had whooping cough. Because in all such matters the wife has better reason to remember and remember correctly.

Never a day goes by that a woman isn't aware of exactly how many children she has to feed, clothe, check up on, and get off to school. A man might go off to war and

grow hazy about all the little darlings he left at home, but Mama is still on the job. There is never a moment in the day when she can be vague about how many small fry there are around the house.

If the sailor had stopped to think about that, he never would have argued with Mama about the number of children the two of them had brought into the world.

He wouldn't even have considered she might be wrong if he had remembered one thing. Any woman today is perfectly certain about the number of ration books she has.

But then men are so in the habit of correcting their wives' statistics it was probably just automatic with the sailor. You know how it is, "Women just never get things straight."

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, July 30—The unusual spectacle of a senator outlining all the objections to one of his own pet projects is presented in the two days of opening hearings on Montana Senator James E. Murray's highly controversial full employment bill. Murray is leaving others the job of telling what a great thing his national job budget is. He himself is going to review every criticism that has been raised against the idea of trying to maintain a balanced national economy which will provide ever-normal employment.

Conservative business men are still pretty well unconvinced of the practicality of what they consider Murray's radical ideas. They look on booms and depressions as natural business cycles which nobody can do anything about. They don't think it possible to shape all related government policies taxation, public works, wages, working conditions, foreign trade, agriculture, industry, development of natural resources and the control of investments competition, monopolies and trade practices so they will all make a contribution to maintaining prosperity.

The other side of the argument in these preliminary hearings is being given by Murray's three co-sponsors in the house.

Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney of Wyoming presents the needs for such legislation. O'Mahoney was chairman of the pre-war temporary national economic committee and his presentation is a summary of the economic facts of American life as determined by T. N. E. C.

Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah, chairman of the senate committee on military affairs presents the need for full employment as a factor in maintaining world peace.

Senator Robert F. Wagner, the fourth co-sponsor and chairman of the senate committee on banking and currency in whose hands the full employment bill will be studied has another approach to this question. It is a report on the employment stabilization act of 1931. It tells how this act failed to do what it was supposed to do because of defects which are supposedly corrected in Senator Murray's draft of the full employment act of 1945 now before congress.

There is a common belief that this full employment bill presents a new idea in gov-

ernment. According to Senator Wagner it is not new. In his report, Wagner states that Senator George Wharton Pepper of Pennsylvania in 1927 proposed a study of stabilizing employment. A year later Senator Wesley L. Jones of Washington sponsored a bill to create a prosperity reserve and Senator Wagner himself first introduced a bill for employment stabilization. But 1928 was an election year and nobody wanted to touch a politically dangerous idea then. Also, this was before the peak of the Coolidge boom. Nobody ever thought about possible unemployment in those lush days.

In 1931, however, the unemployed were in everybody's hair and then congress was ready to do something. The result was passage of the employment stabilization act of 1931, based on Wagner's original idea. It was approved by President Herbert Hoover who himself has a record of action to relieve business depressions and unemployment beginning in 1920.

Shortly after President Roosevelt took office in 1933 he practically abolished the Wagner Employment Stabilization act by executive order. Roosevelt then did not believe the act broad enough to deal with the crises in which the country found itself and today Wagner cites a number of reasons why his original plan had to be abandoned.

The 1931 act tried to stabilize employment only through federal spending on public works programs. There was no concerted effort to boost employment in private industry and agriculture. The act came too late—after the depression had set in—not before when a little advance planning might have relieved the crash of the 1930's.

Senator Wagner today believes that 1928 is comparable to 1945. Both show jobs open for all who are able and willing to work. Both show prospects of sudden declines in unemployment ahead.

The great difference is that today most people realize the danger of future unemployment and would like to see something done about it. A slight increase in unemployment by next fall, when the senate banking and currency committee comes back to begin real scrimmage and skull practice on Murray's full employment football, will heighten the interest aroused by the kickoff at this week's two-day try-out.

### Side Glances



"You bet it feels good to be carrying the old mail route again—it's a snap after two years in the infantry!"

## McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY America's Card Authority

### AVOIDING END PLAY DEFEATS CONTRACT

Eberhard Faber of New York has long been a close friend of bridge players. He was president of the American Whist League at

<p>▲ 974                  ▲ K 03                  ▲ J 1094                  ▲ 1073</p>	<p>W N                  S E                  Dealer</p>	<p>▲ 86                  ▲ J 108                  ▲ 753                  ▲ K 8654</p>
<p>Eberhard Faber                  ▲ K Q 105                  3                  ▲ Q 752                  ▲ K 6                  ▲ J 2</p>	<p>▲ A J 2                  ▲ A 64                  ▲ A Q 82                  ▲ A Q 9</p>	<p>Duplicate—Neither vul.                  South West North East                  2 N. T. Pass 3 N. T. Pass                  Opening—▲ K. 31</p>

through the hand. His spade king was allowed to hold, and he shifted to the deuce of hearts. Declarer won with the king in dummy and led the jack of diamonds. When the finesse was taken, Faber won and led back the diamond. Declarer won in dummy and led a small club, finessing the nine-spot. Mr. Faber won with the jack, and led the deuce of clubs. Now declarer was unable to get the end-play that would produce his ninth trick.

## IN FORMER YEARS

**30 Years Ago, July 30**  
 Miss Ivy Head, city librarian, left for Jefferson City, Iowa, and Chicago where she will visit friends and relatives for a month. During her absence the library here will be in charge of Miss Florence Happersett.

Dr. Myrtle Long as returned home after spending three weeks on the coast.  
 Miss Della Ryburn and Miss Rachel Turner left last night for a short vacation at North Beach.

**15 Years Ago, July 30**  
 Miss Helen Voelker, University of Oregon student from near Portland, is visiting in Elgin this week with Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Shoemaker and their son, Vernal. She is a member of Alpha Omicron Pi at the university.

During the month of July, there were only three slight showers in La Grande, each barely enough for the weather board here to measure. The total precipitation for the month amounted to three hundredths of an inch, hardly enough to settle a dust.

**10 Years Ago, July 30**  
 Mrs. Lester Bramwell and daughter, Leah left for Wallowa lake for a few days vacation there.

President and Mrs. H. E. Inlow and daughter, Jean, returned from an automobile trip to the Olympic peninsula at Victoria, B. C. They spent about a week on their trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Snodgrass and children, Noema, John and Dannie, who have been living on Gekeler lane have moved into La Grande where they will reside in the future.

### This Curious World



**RADAR**  
 IS EXPECTED TO BE USED IN POST-WAR DAYS FOR TRACING THE FLIGHT OF MIGRATING BIRDS.



**Quiz Corner**  
 I am in the capital city of a state which some call the "Queen of the West" 100 years ago, a state discovered by a Spanish explorer, my name in 1513... its name meaning "lower".  
 Where's Elmer?

ANSWER: Tallahassee, Florida.  
 NEXT: Why is helium named for the sun?