

EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 10, 1945

Page Two

Our Changing World



Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Some of the important things really happening at Potsdam but omitted from the communique have now leaked out.

Two of them concerned the keeping of allied troops in occupied Europe this winter, and the intricate problem of setting up democracy in southern Europe. They caused some near cat-and-dog fights.

Biggest fight at Potsdam was over the proposal to withdraw allied troops from a large part of occupied Europe before winter. This was quietly put forward by President Truman, but met with cool reception from Churchill. Stalin was even chillier.

Truman was referring, not to Germany, but to the various satellite axis countries which never got into the war with any enthusiasm, plus some of the allied countries which never wanted to get into the war at all.

The president pointed out withdrawal of allied troops from the Balkans would clear the atmosphere and improve all-around relations. (Russian troops are in Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria, which actively fought on Hitler's side, while British troops are in Greece and to some extent in Yugoslavia, both bitterly fighting Hitler.)

Churchill Says No

When Truman proposed British troops withdraw completely from Yugoslavia and Greece (the British have as many troops in Greece as the Germans once did), Churchill bluntly said no.

However, Churchill did consent, after considerable argument by Truman, to withdraw most American and British troops from Italy during the coming winter.

Incidentally, most of the Potsdam agreement was settled while Winston Churchill was still prime minister of England. For better or worse, it stands as a monument to him. By the time new Prime Minister Attlee arrived, most of the job was finished, and, inasmuch as he had sat in on the pre-

ceding talks, he ok'd all that Churchill had done. With one exception—Spain. Attlee caused the declaration against Franco to be strengthened.

Bickering over the Balkans also ended in a stalemate. The big three could get nowhere regarding the axis satellites, except on the non-Balkan country of Finland.

In describing the problems confronting the big three, this column reported on July 20, 1945, that Stalin last May proposed allied recognition of Hungary, Bulgaria, Rumania and Finland, but that Truman then was only willing to recognize Finland.

The Column also reported that the American minister in Bulgaria had been held almost a prisoner in his own legation by soviet troops.

At Potsdam, therefore, Truman proposed they review the situation in Finland, Bulgaria, Rumania, et al, and took up Finland first. It was agreed the Finnish situation is satisfactory, a stable government had been formed, and Truman promised to renew diplomatic relations with Finland soon.

Then came the question of Bulgaria. Stalin said a democratic government had been set up, and that democratic elections were to be held in Bulgaria.

At this point, Truman pulled a letter from his pocket and said, in effect, "Oh yeah?" The letter was from an Agrarian (peasant party) member of the Bulgarian cabinet, stating that there could be no free elections under the present set-up and no democratic system in Bulgaria. The letter was addressed to the Bulgarian prime minister, the American minister in Bulgaria, and the allied control commissioner. It proved a bombshell.

Stalin, taken aback, said no more about Bulgaria. Next day, the Agrarian cabinet member was dropped from the Bulgarian cabinet and the question of holding free elections in Bulgaria went over to the meeting of foreign ministers to be held in London before Sept. 1.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

The wife of the Pfc. who eats so much he has been dubbed "The Stomach" isn't worried about how she'll feed him if the army decides it can't cope with a soldier who has been known to eat a light breakfast consisting of 40 eggs, 20 pieces of toast, several quarts of milk, eight pieces of bacon, a quart of coffee, and a large box of cereal.

How does she propose to cut his appetite down to normal if army psychiatrists fail? They're trying to taper him off gradually.

Well, her plan is very simple. She says she will first have a talk with him and show him the family's allotment of ration points. Then she will feed him a good family meal, with emphasis on no seconds. And third she'll show him a price table she has compiled on the increase in the cost of living. She thinks those three steps will curb his unrationed appetite, even if army doctors fail to figure out the cause for it. And she's probably right. Look at the way thousands of other wives have changed the eating habits of their husbands by the very same three steps.

Time was when the average wife catered to all her husband's food whims. If he liked roast beef rare, and could pay for it, that

was what he got. If his favorite meal included thick steaks and apple pie—it was served to him at least twice a week. He didn't like those fancy dishes women were always getting out of magazines, where a man couldn't be sure he was eating, so he rarely got such a dish a second time.

But times have changed, and now the average man is grateful to have a meal that includes meat two or three times a week. Meekly he accepts all kinds of crazy dishes, that the food writers trot out as meat-stretchers. If he gets a tough old round steak for Sunday dinner, he beams, and tells the little woman—or she tells him—how smart she was to manage it on her points.

So judging from the drastic way they have changed their own men's eating habits, wives ought to have confidence in the three point plan the wife of "The Stomach" has advanced as her proposed appetite-killer.

But there's still another step, if the first three fail. She can send him to the butcher, ration books in hand, and let him stand in line for an hour and then face a near-empty meat case, and the aloof attitude of the butcher. That will fix him, sure.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

(This article by S. Burton Heath, NEA staff correspondent, is substituted today for the usual column by Peter Edson.)

Russia and Japan have fought only one avowed war. The Japs won that more or less by default. They destroyed the czar's fleet, and by overwhelming numerical superiority combined with more intelligent leadership, they whipped the Russians consistently on land. The war of 1904-05 was unpopular in Russia. The average Slav had no conception then of what has become evident since—that the belligerently ambitious empire rising of the coast of China must inevitably clash with Russia's program for the building up of Siberia. The war ended just as the tide might have turned. To win her unbroken chain of victories Japan exhausted her resources. Attrition would have ruined her if the war had continued. Russia had been handicapped originally by the necessity of sending troops, weapons and supplies across the Siberian wastes on a one-track railroad. But back home, her manpower and materials were relatively inexhaustible, and even in the final battles she had achieved almost a parity with the Japs.

This was the only time the two great aspirants for domination over the Pacific indulged in something resembling declared war, but they have pecked away at each other sporadically, in guerrilla fashion, much of the time for a century, and it has been long apparent that some day one or the other would have to be eliminated from the Pacific picture. A casual glance at any good map of the north Pacific makes it clear why the nationalistic Japs and the ambitious owners of Siberia should be at almost constant loggerheads.

Consider first, the island of Sakhalin. It is the northernmost land in the Japanese archipelago—apparently an integral part of the Nipponese main land. But the Japs own only the relatively worthless southern portion. While Russia holds the rich coal and oil lands to the north. Consider next Port Arthur and Dairen on the Kwangtung peninsula in southern Manchuria. They are ice-free ports the year around. Russia's only important Pacific port, Vladivostok is closed by ice part of the year. Unless she can have

at least free access to Dairen without naval threat from a Jap held Port Arthur, Russia cannot hope to develop for Siberia the Pacific commerce she needs badly. Or consider Manchuria proper with its hundreds of thousands of square miles of the world's richest farming land, its gold, silver, coal, iron, copper, lead, tungsten. The Japs, cooped up on barren islands want the space, the foodstuffs and the industrial raw materials of Manchuria, and have taken them. But Russia for development of Siberia, requires at the very least free access to those resources, and Russia cannot feel very safe about Siberia as long as Jap armies squat across the Manchurian border, and Jap battleships anchor at Port Arthur and the Japs consider Korea as part of their homeland. China, historic owner of all these areas except Sakhalin, is treated as a mere bystander in this clash of rival imperial ambitions.

In 1857, Japan had just been opened by Commodore Perry, and the Russians, needing an isolated location for penal colonies, probably didn't even think of Tokyo when they began colonizing Sakhalin. Japan was strong enough by 1875 so that when Russia decided to take Sakhalin, the czar crossed over domination of the Kuriles and certain Okhotsk and Bering Sea fishing rights as a sop—as one gives the baby a toy to stop his crying when he takes away the watch he was playing with. The incident was negligible to the czar, but illuminating and annoying to the mikado; so when the Japs whipped China in 1894, they adopted occidental practice and demanded the Liaotung peninsula, upon which Port Arthur and Dairen are located. The Chinese agreed, but France, Germany and Russia forced Japan to cancel the deal.

Four years later, Russia leased the ports from which she had kept Japan in 1900; using the Boxer rebellion as an excuse, she occupied much of Manchuria. She had previously obtained Chinese consent to building the Chinese Eastern railway, connecting with her own trans-Siberian line, and in 1908 she obtained the privilege of extending this to her leased Port Arthur by way of Mukden, Manchuria. Japanese viewed these eastward excursions with distrust, just as

Side Glances



"Let me tip you off, Charley—develop some allergy and you can get out of all kinds of ornery jobs around the house like I did!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY America's Card Authority

WHEN IN DOUBT, BID OR DOUBLE OPPONENT

Many players feel they have made a big mistake when they double a contract and the opponents make it. If the opponents make a doubled contract without

one-half top honor tricks combined with a couple of jacks and tens, and a sure trump trick. Nevertheless he could not defeat the contract. The opening spade lead was won by West with the ace when South played the king. A small heart was led to the queen, South won, and attempted to cash the king and ace of clubs. But the second club was ruffed, the ten of hearts picked up, and the diamond ten led. The finesse was taken, South had to win with the ace, and that was his last trick. But I still say he had a sound double.

♠ 86	♥ 432
♦ J	♣ Q8542
♠ Q8542	♥ Q652
♦ 9853	♣ KJ87
♠ A Q 10 5	♥ A 10
♦ K 9 8 7	♣ A 3
♠ 10 9	♥ K J 10 7
♦ 2	♣ A K J 10 7

Dealer

Duplicate—Both vul.

South	West	North	East
1♣	1♥	2♣	2♥
2♠	3♥	4♣	4♥
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening—♠ 8.			11

BARBS

One place where a man may acquire a vocabulary is at the altar.

Judging from the wide open spaces in the meat cases, fewer goats are growing up to be lamb chops.

The Jap home folks must be amazed over what the Americans are doing with a fleet that's been sunk several times.

We've solved the juvenile delinquency problem. Children won't mind parents who won't mind children.

"SOME MEN'S SINS AND THEIR JUDGMENT"

Sunday Evening at 8:00
9:45 a. m., The Church School
11:00 a.m. "CONSCIENCE—EFFECTS OF ABUSE"
Broadcast on KLBM
The Lord's Supper Observed

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH R. E. Stanley Hunt
Sixth and Spring Minister

Bring Your Car Here for STOP-WEAR LUBRICATION

It Carries a 1000-Mile Guarantee

- We perform the following services with modern equipment and do an efficient, guaranteed job.
- Drain, Flush & Refill Crankcase
 - Refill Transmission with Proper Lubricant
 - Clean Air Cleaner
 - Lubricate Chassis
 - Lubricate Transmission
 - Repack Front Wheels
 - Clean Oil Filter
 - Lubricate Motor

IN ADDITION . . . we give these FREE SERVICES! Clean all glass, check lights, filter mileage, fan belt, windshield wiper, battery cable, change door lube record and check and fill battery. This is why it pays to have a Stop-Wear Lubrication Job here.

Expert Car Washing, Waxing & polishing
Battery Charging — Flat Tires Fixed
Firestone Accessories

Union Oil Station
LYNN ANDERSON
"Your Independent Union Oil Dealer"
1601 Adams Phone 86

Funny Business



"Will you fix these up? I just had my gas rations taken away from me!"

SO THEY SAY

Except when a case is pending (to avoid influencing a court's decision), any citizen and any newspaper should have as much freedom to criticize a judge as it has to criticize anyone else.
—Jacksonville, Fla., Journal.

I believe that sugar rationing in one form or another will continue through 1946 and perhaps through 1947.
—Ody H. Lamborn, New York sugar broker.

The growth in women's independence, if it is coupled with a like growth in acceptance of responsibilities toward the nation's welfare, should make this a better country.
—Gary, Ind., Post-Tribune.

Reconversion is going slowly. But it is going slowly not because of improper preparations, but because war production is being cut back gradually.
—J. A. Krug, chairman, War Production Board.