

# EDITORIAL PAGE

## La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

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Page Two

### Wars May Come and Wars May Go—



#### EVENING OBSERVER'S PROGRESS PROGRAM

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

#### TODAY'S TEXT

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father, which is in heaven. —Matthew 10:32.

#### Why Delay Good News?

The war department doubtless felt that it had good reason for delaying for several days the announcements of the identities of the four Doolittle Tokyo raid flyers liberated by American paratroopers recently from a Jap prison camp near Peiping. But, if the reasons were good, they are not likely to so appear on the surface to the casual observer.

The only announced reason for the delay was the one given in connection with all military casualties. Identities were withheld "until next of kin could be notified."

In the case of casualties, that sort of delay doubtless is merciful. It may tend to cushion in some degree the shock resulting from tragic news.

But the release of the Doolittle raiders definitely was not tragic news. It was glorious news for loved ones of the fortunate young men. So what was the sense in delaying its transmission? The war department tacitly confessed that news agencies could have moved the happy news faster by its statement that identities would not be made public un-

til "next of kin could be notified." What difference could it have made where the announcement of the identities came from? Wouldn't the fastest notification have been the best in such a case?

And what of the families and friends of the Doolittle raiders still not accounted for? There are several of these. Surely their hopes must have been aroused to a pitch of almost desperate eagerness by the announcement that some of the raiders had been released. Beyond any doubt, they must have lived in an agony of suspense while waiting for the identities to be reported.

Can anyone pretend to imagine the tragedy of their disappointment when finally they learned that the name for which they were watching was not on the list? If the war department's course was intended as a consideration for the families of the fortunate men, it certainly was cruel to those of the men still listed as missing.

It may have been, of course, that the delay was due to the desire of the military to make absolutely certain of identities before they were released. Mistake in such a matter would have been tragic.

But another possibility is that the particular course was followed in this matter because the army was in the rut of handling such matters in a fixed way from which no deviations were allowed. If iron-clad regulation was the only reason for the delay, then it's time to put a little flexibility into the rules to permit special treatment of special cases.

Certainly there is no reason why news should be delayed after its accuracy is checked.

### SO THEY SAY

I am confident that the American people will remain united in the days to come.  
—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York.

It is time to recall that the emperor and the big business families, as well as the militarists, have been responsible for every Japanese war of conquest.  
—M. J. Coldwell, national Canadian Commonwealth Federation Party leader.

It is a well-known habit of the war department to make generous estimates of its needs, and to fit its demands to those estimates.  
—Freepart, Ill., Journal-Standard.

I wouldn't care to state precisely the size of the fortune I have accumulated, but I'm willing to admit that I've used my presidential position to get credit when golden opportunities fell in my lap.  
—Anastasio Somoza, president of Nicaragua.

### Funny Business



"Smoke signal, heck! That was my blanket burning up!"

## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

(NOTE — In Drew Pearson's absence Herbert Bayard Swope, long a student of British political affairs, contributes a guest column on the new labor government.)

**By HERBERT BAYARD SWOPE**  
NEW YORK—The conservative defeat in England is not so striking a blow as some portray it. Unquestionably, there will be a trend toward socialization, but I think this will be confined, at least for the next few years, to the natural monopolies—power, light, heat, transportation, communication (already in the state's hands except for cables) and, of course, mining, steel, and the bank of England. But much of this has been on their program for the last 25 years.

In fact, even the Lloyd George government gave support to the basic plan. There will be a trend on the part of the radical movement in this country to affiliate itself with the British program. And I think there will be efforts to gain a wider and deeper association politically with Britain and Russia. But I do not discern any trend toward communism.

Whatever Britain does will be done not by dictatorship, but under democracy. That characteristic saves it from becoming a repetition of Stalinism. After all, only two communists were elected out of 27 who ran. That's not dangerous, even though the propagandists can—and do—claim 100 percent increase! (The commies had one member in the last house.)

**No New Foreign Policy**  
I doubt there will be any decisive changes in foreign policy. Britain has adhered to a pretty well formulated foreign policy for 300 years. However, it is reasonable to expect a greater sympathy on the part of the British foreign office for the movement left of center. An approach to self-government in India is to be expected.

I think foreign trade will become more international minded and more collective. I think it will move toward further cartelization. The question about British commerce growing will be dependent upon their rate of wage. Labor will drive for wider employment and higher pay. Probably it will take over many features of Beveridge's plan. To hold the British position in world markets will require subsidies. In other words, Brit-

ain will embark upon a species of protection.

**Long Labor Rule**  
Attlee is a good man, overshadowed by his association with Churchill. My guess is that labor is in for a long run and, if there is any change it will be to displace Attlee for one of its own, such as Bevin or Morrison. As its name implies, this is a labor victory, built in a democratic framework.

Unquestionably, the fact labor received a clear majority of all the votes, will tend to unify the country. I believe there is nothing to fear from England. In fact, we may be able to learn from this great experiment. My hope is that there will not be too great a limitation set upon free enterprise.

We should remember that Ramsay MacDonald's labor government swung steadily to the right. In fact, it is axiomatic that the ins group conservative and the outs more radical.

**Universal War-Weariness**  
In my reading, it is almost a settled law of history that every country engaged in a war repudiates the leadership that brought its people into the war. We saw that exemplified after World War I. All the victors were repudiated—Wilson in America, Lloyd George in Britain, Orlando in Italy, Clemenceau in France. And the losers, too. The Hohenzollerns, the Hapsburgs and the Romanoffs.

Attlee's cabinet is a strong one and certainly as good as Churchill had.

**Bolder U. S. Unions**  
The English result will embolden the demands of the unions—and there may be dynamite in that—because the returning soldier, at this moment, is pretty sore at union delays.

I think the deep explanation as to the outcome in England (although it may not appear upon the record) is that war-weariness, to which I refer above. The people want to end the pressure of war and enjoy the pleasures of peace.

One other thought in this connection: In any war, we must be sure the victors do not take on the vices of the vanquished, while the vanquished practice the virtues of the victors.

You will see, from this screed, that I am not pessimistic. On the contrary, I think we in America are about to embark on a long

## WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

War does strange things to men. But perhaps the most amazing effect it has had on any group is the report we have on liberated British prisoners of war who after years of isolation have developed a genuine fear of women.

The far is so real that Britain has ATS girls the equivalent of our WACs—working in a war prisoners' resettlement camp, so the men can gradually get used to having women around again.

The service women serve meals and perform other duties around the camp, and when a man is sufficiently cured of his fear of femininity to want a dance partner, the girls are waiting to say, "Certainly, I'd love to dance."

It is undoubtedly a good idea—if there are liberated prisoners of war with a genuine fear of women—to get them used to women gradually before exposing them to the bold advances of today's girls. For while they have been in isolation, the girls have pretty much discarded the once male prerogative

of leading the chase. And the man who is afraid of women might die of fright if without any preparation at all he found himself thrust suddenly into the social life of today.

Perhaps, too, there is a warning here for all women. If the war prisoners have developed a real and terrifying fear of women, it may be the ordinary soldiers who have been stationed in places where feminine society was very limited have a little of the same kind of fear.

And if they have—the girls had better go easy and start playing hard to get.

There is no better way of taming a frightened male who is ready to shy off at the first sign that a woman has marked him for her own than to pretend indifference.

For that immediately brings out the deep-rooted masculine desire to have what is hard to get, to succeed where others have failed, to conquer against all odds.

So if he looks frightened, girls, retreat. You may find that the best if not the boldest strategy.

## Behind Scenes in Washington

By DOUGLAS LARSEN

NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NEA)—Paul V. McNutt is back in town. For the past month he's been making a careful study of conditions in the Philippines, Guam and Okinawa.

It's the same mission Sen. Millard E. Tydings (D. Md.) attempted recently when he returned in three days after planning to be there four weeks. Why he returned so suddenly is still a mystery. Persons who accompanied him don't know either but firmly deny the rumor it was because of a fight with Gen. Douglas MacArthur. None of the representatives from the civil agencies who went out there to get information turned up with much dope, either. MacArthur kept a pretty firm hand on everything and all reports were made through him so Truman sent McNutt to do the job. He had been high commissioner of the Philippines and very well acquainted with the whole situation.

Exactly what McNutt will tell the president isn't known yet. But he has said several times that he favors immediate appointment of a high commissioner. Whoever gets the job would serve until July 4, 1946—date on which the islands are to get their independence—and then become the first ambassador to the Philippine republic.

Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes has had charge of Philippine affairs during the war. He has been urging for appointment of a high commissioner since the fall of Manila. But Sergio Osmena, president of the commonwealth of the Philippines is known to have a promise from the president that he would hold up the appointment. Osmena apparently was afraid the presence of a high commissioner would hold up the granting of independence. MacArthur was against it, too.

Now, however, everybody appears to be for it. Something has to be done for the islands soon, and Osmena admits it. MacArthur with his new duties in the Pacific also approves. McNutt himself would be the logical man. He was tremendously popular when he was in that spot before. He could probably have it if he wanted it but it won't

be the pleasant graceful job it was before the war and the eventual ambassadorship that will result will be a little beneath the government jobs McNutt holds.

Other possibilities are Weldon Jones, assistant director of the budget bureau, who formerly was auditor general of the islands and Wayne Coy, member of the Filipino rehabilitation committee and former assistant to the president.

The sudden end of the war points up the grave situation which exists in the islands. The government there is running out of money. Many local officials haven't been paid for months and the school system is about to fold.

Senator Tydings has introduced a bill which would lend the government there \$100,000,000 in lieu of payment for war damage but the bill is stuck in a committee. Nothing has been done to pay for war damages other than that and the islanders think we should pay for war damages in varying amounts from a half to a billion dollars immediately.

Principal reason for the empty coffers in the disappearance of tax sources. The big sugar industries are said to be practically all closed and there is widespread unemployment.

Congress has done nothing to prepare for giving the islands their independence. Something will have to be done about trade relations. This is the issue most vitally affecting industry. Under the U. S. there were no regular tariff barriers. If imports to U. S. from an independent Philippine republic have to pay these taxes the principal industries there won't be worth a nickel. A lot of it is U. S. capital which would have to be abandoned. Unless some kind of favorable trade relation is established the islands will probably revert to their former state as merely agrarian areas.

On top of everything else the politics among the natives is chaotic. General elections will be held the first week of November and it is believed not unlikely that Osmena might be defeated.

### Side Glances



"Why, yes, ma'am, I'm the baby-sitter who put the ad in the paper—I just thought I'd earn a little money after sitting with three generations of children free!"

### McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY America's Card Authority

#### LET OPPONENTS HELP TAKE FINESSES

You will notice in today's hand that I have used a "T" in place of a 10. The hand came from R. C. Jones, secretary to Congressman Scrivner of Kansas. Mr. Jones made the suggestion that by using a T instead of a 10 for the fifth

♠ A 7 3	♥ Q 9 6 5 3	♦ K J T 9	♣ K T 8 2
♠ 6 4 2	♥ 4 3	♦ A	♣ K 9 6 4
♠ 4 3	♥ J T 9 8 5	♦ Dealer	♣ Q 8 6 5
♠ 2	♥ 8 7 5 3	♦ A J 4	♣ K Q 7
		♦ A Q J	♣
Rubber—Neither vul.			
South	West	North	East
1 N. T.	Pass	2♥	Pass
3 N. T.	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening—♦ J			30

### IN FORMER YEARS

**Thirty Years Ago**  
Robbers have again broken open the postoffice safe at Island City. Some time last night the combination of the postoffice safe housed in the Kiddle store was hammered to pieces and the contents—about \$60—taken.  
For the time being, irrigation of lawns in La Grande must cease—this to avert pumping river water into the mains.

**Fifteen Years Ago**  
"The Nook," a barbecue shop on Adams just off Depot, owned by Ray Meyersick and the Smith brothers, will be opened this evening, although tomorrow will be the official opening date.  
Plans are progressing for the open meeting of the Eagles lodge when Ed Bigelow of the national organizing department will be here.

**Ten Years Ago**  
Dirt in huge quantities was being shoveled from the \$90,000 upgrade crossing between Adams avenue and the U. P. railroad today. The shovel started work late yesterday, and the dirt was being hauled to the E.O.N. campus for use there, it was said.

**BARBS**  
Some women simply can't wait until winter to put on their heavy robe.  
The Japs blamed a "typhoon" for delay in executing General MacArthur's orders. Just a lot of wind!  
Electric fans will be available by December. We doubt, however, that winter will need any help in keeping us cool.

Bob Feller returned to the Cleveland Indians and picked up right where he left off with the navy—in there pitching!  
Nothing makes your friends bark at you quicker than your going to the dogs.  
More than one-half of the cities of Poland are on the banks of the Vistula river.

### This Curious World



### Quiz Korner

HOW LONG DOES A HIGH TIDE REMAIN AT ITS HIGHEST POINT?



ANSWER: It begins to fall immediately, although the change of elevation is not noticeable for some minutes.

NEXT: The world's oldest coal-truck.