

EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

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Triumphal Arch



DEAN H. CAPP
M.A. Service Inc.

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

He that will learn to pray, let him go to sea.—Herbert.

Aviation Anniversary

Those who have come to accept transcontinental air travel in a completely matter-of-fact manner are likely to find it difficult to realize that this particular phase of transportation is just now rounding out 25 years of operation.

Although it seems incredible that such advances could have been made within a quarter century, it is a fact that Sept. 8 marks the 25th anniversary of the first scheduled air operation between the Atlantic and Pacific.

It was at 6:14 a.m. on Sept. 8, 1920, that the first such plane—a DeHavilland with 400 horsepower motors and carrying 400 pounds of mail—took off from Mineola, N. Y., on the first leg of the first such transcontinental journey. Planes carried the mail cargo by day, and trains by night. More than three days later, at 2:25 p.m. on Sept. 11, the mail plane landed at San Francisco. Less than six months later, on Feb. 22, 1921, the first demonstration of day and night flying of the transcontinental mail was made. A flight from San Francisco to New York was completed in 33 hours, 21 minutes.

Those achievements properly excited world-wide wonder at the time. Yet how puny they now seem compared with routine, present-day schedules.

Dozens of giant planes operate on daily transcontinental schedules with clock-like regularity in all except the most forbidding weather. The first transcontinental flight speed average of approximately 90 miles per hour has been boosted to around 200 mph. The aggregate mail loads of a single day often exceed the poundage of the first entire year. The operation has become one of the most exact of sciences. And, of course, transcontinental air passenger travel has become entirely routine.

Nor do any of these represent the climatic in achievements.

On the contrary, the day may not be far distant when everyone will recognize that commercial aviation of today still was in its infancy. Immediately ahead is the promise of scheduled cross-continent flying in nine to 10 hours. And those who are considered conservatives—predict that the time is not far distant when that time will be reduced very substantially. When one hears discussions of rocket-plane speeds of 1000, 1500 and 2000 miles per hour, no one knows what the future may hold.

Thus, Sept. 8 represents an important anniversary in the history of the nation's and the world's transportation. From that date, it might properly be said, aviation definitely began to prove itself the sure and swift messenger and servant of mankind.

Funny Business



SO THEY SAY

Francisco's shakeup of his cabinet will not fool Uncle Sam. Uncle knows him for what he is and repentance comes too late.
—Macon, Ga., News.

Radar played a greater part in the whole war than the atomic bomb. It contributed to the winning of the war more than any other single factor.
—Sir Stafford Cripps, chairman, British Radio Board.

Never in the world's history has organized Christianity faced a task comparable to that of binding up the wounds of the world.
—The Rev. Dr. Lester H. Clee, Second Presbyterian church, Newark, N. J.

What rebuilding is done in Germany will be done with materials from inside Germany and by Germans.
—Clifford S. Strike, chief of German building industries in the United States group central commission.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

(Editor's Note—While Drew Pearson is on vacation, Senator A. B. Chandler of Kentucky, new czar of American baseball, contributes a guest column.)

By A. B. "HAPPY" CHANDLER

WASHINGTON—Drew Pearson has taken me for quite a few rides on his merry-go-round. Right now, it's my turn to take him for a ride. However, the spirit of victory and the warm summer sunshine has warmed the acid in my heart. The spirit of charity is in me and so I will devote this guest column, not to doing a job on Drew Pearson, but instead to telling his readers something about Washington and baseball.

However, before I leave the subject of Drew Pearson, let me tell this to his readers. To know him casually is not to suspect him, but to know him well is to understand that he is one fellow whose bite is a lot worse than his bark.

I have seen senators react more strongly to Drew Pearson than Brooklyn baseball fans to a miscalled play. I have even heard the Brooklyn chant, "thrown the bum out," used by my senatorial colleagues against the author of the Washington Merry-go-Round.

But, as I said, I feel a little touch of charity in my soul—so we'll talk about baseball. I made another big sacrifice when I took the job. I used to be a rabid roofer; but now that I am commissioner, I've got to stand around and just watch the games; and I am not allowed to cheer because I am impartial. But I can think of nothing more delightful than getting paid to go to the games, so I think I will be very happy with my new job. I've got a lot of plans for baseball.

Baseball's Future

About 300,000 fine American boys will never come back. One hundred seventy thousand others have suffered wounds that will leave them permanently broken. Three billion dollars of our people's resources have been poured into the holocaust of war. We have paid a dreadful price for victory. The people of America have learned again freedom is one of God's greatest blessings which must be won and secured with tears and sacrifice.

As a part of their training for the American way of life, we have always encouraged fair sportsmanship in our children. A

great contribution to our success in arms can be contributed to the lessons learned by our people in American sports. Youngsters who have been taught to throw a baseball have proved just as efficient in throwing a hand grenade.

A great sport era lies ahead. Veterans of Sicily and Guadalcanal, Aachen and Okinawa, will soon be home to enjoy a game they love. I predict baseball is going to prove itself worthy of the affection of these men.

I think, however, the ball club owners of the nation feel an obligation to these boys. They feel an obligation to the American people. They will use some of the profits they make out of the loyalty of the American people to help the kids that make baseball possible. They are using the profits to help more kids participate in competitive sports. I'm going to try to get every bit of surplus sports equipment held by the army and navy after this war and distribute it to youngsters in schools, neighborhoods, and charitable institutions.

Clean American Sport

There has never been a record of a crooked umpire in baseball. Baseball has been an honest game, teaching sportsmanship and clean play for many years. It is my ambition to make it grow and keep it clean.

It was my good luck as a member of the senate to make a 60,000-mile trip around the world. I saw our boys in action in every part of the globe. It was a sight I'll never forget. I'll never forget those boys with a 1,000-foot stare in a ten-foot room—looking straight through you and not seeing you. Boys too tired to go to the front again, but who begged themselves out of a foxhole and marched out to make a sacrifice for their country. I felt humble in their presence.

Those boys deserve everything we can give them. They learned clean play on the baseball diamonds of America. They saw the enemy at close hand overseas. They fought cleanly, skillfully and honorably even when the enemy didn't. They will come back hard-hitting, loyal, patriotic Americans. We owe them everything we can give them. As baseball commissioner, I can guarantee them that America's favorite sport will be clean and growing when they return I can guarantee them every opportunity to play and watch organized baseball. It's still a great game. It will be a greater game. Play ball.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Before the rules against fraternizing were somewhat relaxed in Germany, the army newspaper Stars and Stripes was filled with letters from servicemen griping about the ruling. They hollered loud and long, and now they have the right to appear in public with German girls on their arms.

So what naturally follows? Well, a WAC stationed in Germany writes in to Stars and Stripes to ask if it is okay for WACs to do a little fraternizing with German men.

It isn't all right with American soldiers. Since the WAC's letter appeared in print, a blizzard of bitter letters from G. I. has hit the army newspaper.

The men, who thought fraternization was "natural and right" so long as it meant an American man could date a German girl, resent an American girl's "natural and right" desire to date German men.

It's just more of the same story we should

be used to by now. All through the war we have heard how it is just "natural" for American servicemen to need feminine companionship.

But when dating war wives have been brought into the conversation, they have been labelled heels and condemned for not being willing to sit at home waiting patiently for their husbands' return.

Nobody has done any talking about it being only natural for the little woman back home to need masculine companionship. Without a hearing the dating war wives have been regarded as two-timers.

So the WAC shouldn't be surprised at the condemnation that has come her way.

It's 1945—but the time still hasn't come when men consider what is "right and natural" for them acceptable behavior for women.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By DOUGLAS LARSEN

NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31—A new organization of liberal-minded businessmen is making its bow. Name chosen for the outfit is the New Council of American Business. First president is Clarence Avidsen of Chicago, chairman of the board and 70-percent owner of the Republic Drill and Tool corporation, a three-billion dollar concern. Why another organization of business men?

President Avidsen, in unveiling the N. C. A. B. the other day declared flatly "the United States Chamber of Commerce and National Association of Manufacturers are not as liberal and progressive as they should be."

U. S. C. C. and the N. A. M. have, of course, been called worse things than that. But to have a group of businessmen break away from their traditional leadership and go in for some plain and fancy free thinking is something different. Avidsen's statement strikes the keynote for the new organization, however, putting it on the level of the American Lawyers' guild which broke off from the conservative American Bar association.

While the new council is not a political organization, its formation really began a year ago, when the presidential campaign was at its height. At that time, a Businessmen for Roosevelt, and several other quickie political organizations were dreamed up by the campaign managers. Idea was to give democratic businessmen something to belong to and offset republican charges that Roosevelt's fourth-term drive was entirely the work of the C. I. O. political action committee.

After the election, some of the moving spirits of the several organizations of democratic businessmen found another chore to do in whipping up support for Henry Wallace as secretary of commerce. That was done through a National Businessmen's committee for Wallace. When Wallace was put over, ringleaders decided they had other noble purposes to work for and might as well have a permanent organization. N. C. A. B. has grown from that.

Master minds of the new organization of liberal businessmen bear three names well known nationally: Morris S. Rosenthal, executive vice-president of Stein Hall, New York importers. Rosenthal was formerly a director of the old board of economic warfare under Milo Perkins and Henry Wallace. He is to be executive vice-president of N. C. A. B.

Truman Arnold, former trust-busting assistant attorney general, recently resigned as associate justice on the District of Columbia court of appeals, is to be N. C. A. B. general counsel.

Howard J. McMurray, former representative from Milwaukee, and before that, professor of political science at University of Wisconsin, is N. C. A. B. executive director and head of its Washington office.

N. C. A. B. today make no boasts about its membership, friends, influence or finances. Its Washington office is a mere two rooms, located a block and a half from the lush four-story limestone palace which is headquarters of the U. S. chamber of commerce just across Jackson square from the White House.

But the new council does stand for something and its importance today is in the ideas it represents. And if you want to know what a liberal-minded businessman is supposed to think or be thinking about in these touchy times, here are some of the specific proposals which N. C. A. B. leaders are discussing for inclusion in their platform and "economic bill of rights of the 20th century."

Full employment is sound business, so pass the Murray full employment bill. Keep taxes high to protect war bond holders, but eliminate excess profits and consumers' taxes. Enforce the anti-trust laws and strengthen small business. Reform the patent system. Expand the TVA idea to other river valleys. Provide federal scholarships for student aid. Provide adequate housing for families with income under \$1,500 a year. Set up a permanent fair employment practices committee. Pass the new Wagner social security bill. Create a national food production budget to give the best nutrition to all the people.

Side Glances



"I never thought I'd see the day when I'd be willing to accept a washing machine as a birthday present, but I would now, and love it!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY America's Card Authority

CPL. ALVIN ROTH SHOWS OLD SKILL

Cpl. Alvin Roth, known to bridge players as Life Master No. 34, returned to New York with the Fourth Division. He was wearing the Infantry combat badge, which means that he had little time for bridge over in Germany. While waiting to leave with his division for the south Pacific, Alvin showed his old skill on today's

Roth			
▲ K Q 10 5	▲ J	▲ 10	▲ Q 10 8 5
▲ 7 3 2	▲ 4	▲ 6 3	▲ A Q 7 2
▲ J 9 6 4 3	▲ A J	▲ 10 8 5	▲ 6 3
▲ 8 7 4 3	▲ 4	▲ 6 3	▲ A Q 7 2
▲ J 9	▲ A J	▲ 10 8 5	▲ 6 3
▲ 8 7 4 2	▲ 4	▲ 6 3	▲ A Q 7 2
▲ K 5	▲ A J	▲ 10 8 5	▲ 6 3
Duplicate—Neither vul.			
South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening—♦ 2.			

hand, which he played at the Cavendish club with Harry Fishbein as his partner. With all the cards in view, the hand may not appear too interesting, but the battle of wits between the experts at the table was interesting indeed.

West won the opening lead with the king of clubs, but did not return a club as he immediately

read that Roth (North) had a concealed club suit. With a club return Roth could easily have established his ninth trick. Instead West led back the heart jack. Roth won in dummy, returned to his hand with the ten of diamonds and led the king of spades. East won and had to decide whether to simply hold the hand to three no trump and cash his ace-queen of clubs, or try to set the contract. He knew that his spade jack was going to fall, which might establish the whole spade suit for Roth. However, he returned a heart, Roth then cashed the diamonds and led a spade. He went up with the queen, dropping East's jack, and now the ten of spades was good for the ninth trick.

IN FORMER YEARS

Thirty Years Ago

But little relief confronts the forest fire situation in eastern Oregon. The blaze at Howard Meadows which burned over about 80 acres is reported out; the situation at Hilgard—the most serious of any—is somewhat doubtful depending entirely on the caprices of the wind as to being under control or otherwise. In Wallowa and at down-river points the situations are unknown.

Fifteen Years Ago

In checking over the Oregon election laws, the city officials have discovered that section 9334, as amended by section 1, chapter 107, laws of 1929, section 4101, provides that nominating petitions for candidates for city commissioner must be filed with the county clerk between Sept. 20 and Sept. 24.

Ten Years Ago

The annual two-day, 36-hole tournament for the Sacajawea cup will be held at the La Grande country club Sept. 1 and 2, with 18 holes to be played each day. The Boy Scout delegation which left some time ago for a tour of the east is expected to arrive home tomorrow. La Grande representatives in this delegation are Bill Warner, Dick Stoddard, John Raiston, and Bob Dow.

This Curious World



DRAWINGS TAKES THE LIVES OF ABOUT 3,000 AMERICANS ANNUALLY IN THE U.S.

ANSWER: Townships.

NEXT: What do Londoners call a dime novel?