

EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer
Frank Schiro, Publisher

FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 14, 1945

Page Two

Nature's Poorest Handiwork



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

THOUGHT FOR TODAY
For never, never, wicked man was wise.—Homer.

The Truman Approach

The program for peacetime prosperity which President Truman presented to congress could scarcely be called atomic. Yet it was a bit of a bombshell which touched off some immediate explosions. Its effect will surely be felt in new ways and in new places for months to come. And the extent to which it is followed, altered or abandoned by congress will have a decisive effect upon our history.

The program is scarcely an air-tight, copper-riveted plan, charting undeviating and uncontradictory courses toward a multitude of goals. Thus it can't safely be hailed or cursed in its entirety. Nor is there space to give detailed consideration to all its points. So perhaps it may be enough for the moment to comment upon its tone and emphasis.

This was Mr. Truman's first peacetime message to congress. It included a continuation and even extension of some long-cherished New Deal policies. But the presentation was not one that would have been used by the late President Roosevelt, author of the new deal.

Mr. Truman's tone was cheerfully and confident. It showed a nice balance of modesty and authority. The president addressed congress as a partner and an

equal.

It is not unlikely that some of congress' most vigorous anti-new dealers were deceived on first hearing by the president's mild and amenable presentation of his program. It might have required a more detailed study to convince them that their hopes for Mr. Truman's domestic conservatism were obviously vain.

Take, for example, his request for passage of the full employment bill. He minimized the role of government and government spending, the measure's core of controversy. He emphasized government's "ultimate" duty to use its resources if other means fail to prevent "prolonged" unemployment.

"Full employment," said Mr. Truman, "means full opportunity for all under the American economic system — nothing more and nothing less. . . . It does not mean made work, or making people work. . . . Full employment means opportunity to reduce the ratio of public spending to private investment without sacrificing essential services."

Probably some opponents of the Murray-Wagner full employment bill felt a little more kindly toward it after reading Mr. Truman's interpretation.

None of this comment is intended to accuse Mr. Truman of hypocrisy or deception. His record thus far shows that he has a way of saying what he means. It is evident that, though he rightly recognizes his power and responsibility, he does not regard himself as the final authority. His nature seems to welcome the achievement of objectives by compromise and friendly co-operation. That is a trait for which the country may have reason to be grateful in the future.

Funny Business



"Our new vitamin pills are working better than I expected!"

SO THEY SAY

Common sense and the experience of centuries command that Americans be protected by an army and navy which will never bow to an aggressor.
—Gov. Herbert R. O'Connor, of Maryland.

It is time that government agencies be convinced that abundance, not scarcity, marks the road to comfort, prosperity, reasonable prices and decent living.
—Bay City, Mich., Times.

Either we shall rebuild the world upon the faith that all men are equally entitled to education, work and happiness, or, paralyzed by our prejudices, we shall watch the world slide back toward a third and more horrible disaster.
—Rabbi Leon Fram, Detroit.

If there is international justice, China will get the lion's share of any reparations that can be wrung from Japan.
—Hudson, N. Y., Star.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Herbert Hoover's friends put on quite a drive to get him appointed to Hiram Johnson's seat in the U. S. senate. A group of Hollywood moguls, headed by MGM's delightful Louis B. Mayer, even called on Governor Earl Warren to urge the appointment.

"Why, Louey," countered the governor, putting his arm around Mayer, "I was thinking of appointing you."

Louey took this so seriously that he telephoned his people in New York and discussed with them the idea of his taking a year and a half leave of absence.

Note—In the end, Warren appointed William F. Knowland of the Oakland Tribune.

GOP Caucus

Today is D-day for house republicans. They are meeting in caucus to draw up a bill of particulars for nationwide publication. All their gripes against the war administration will be aired, as well as all their alarm about the future.

Republican success in 1946 depends largely upon their ability to formulate a clear and constructive program which, even though they are unable to carry it into law, they will support as a party.

Although swipes at Elliott Roosevelt and insinuations about Pearl Harbor will be heard, responsible GOP leaders know that these will not win elections. Serious, practical, politically-wise republicans will tangle today with the irresponsible calamity-shouters like Clare Hoffman of Michigan and Robert Rich of Pennsylvania. The extent to which they can master these men will be seen from the document that comes out of the caucus.

Chinese Police for Japan

Colonel Carlson of Carlson's Raiders has suggested through White House friends that there are thousands of well-trained troops in China quite capable of policing Japan. These Chinese troops would permit thousands of American troops to return home.

For seven years the Japs have been policing China. Now, Colonel Carlson argues, why not give them some reverse medicine? White House aids who have taken up this idea with the war department find that so far the army has made no more plans for occupying Japan than it did for defending Pearl Harbor. The present plan is to leave everything to MacArthur just as Pearl Harbor was left to General Short. When Mac-

Arthur wants a certain division, the war department, without asking questions, sends it to him, regardless of previous service and how much these men may deserve a rest from the battlefields of Europe.

No attempt has been made so far to use other allied troops except for one division of Australians and South Africans under English officers.

There are about 2,000,000 Indians available for an occupation army, and the British have used them efficiently in the past to police Shanghai, Hongkong, and various parts of the empire. The Italian government, which declared war on Japan toward the end, is also anxious to send troops to Japan—if we will supply the ships; while various other allies, especially the Poles have a lot of men under arms some of them mercenaries who don't especially want to go home.

While the United States must and should carry the main occupation burden, especially the master-minding, there is no reason why American troops should police every nook and cranny of Japan without the help of allies.

Capital Chaff

Assistant Secretary of Labor Carl Moran may be the new chairman of the maritime commission—if he can be persuaded to take it. Moran was a member of the commission when first organized, but couldn't stand the dictatorial tactics of the admirals. . . . Admiral "Jerry" Land is leaving the maritime chairmanship to join the Pratt foundation of the Standard Oil Pratt family. . . . Credit under Secretary of War Patterson with abolishing the old discriminatory army system of requiring each man to state his religion and color. The navy still requires this, however. . . . Walter Lippmann was considered for a time as possible U. S. ambassador to France. . . . The first war crimes trials will be in Berlin, not Nuernberg, and the president of the commission will be a Britisher, probably Lord High Chancellor Sir William Jowett. . . . Only California democrat considered capable of beating Governor Earl Warren for reelection is Attorney General Bob Kenny, who is not particularly anxious to run. Washington friends of Kenny are trying to get assurances that he will go on to federal opportunities if he does make the race for governor. Warren comes up for re-election next year.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

A Hollywood beauty sues for divorce on the grounds that her husband says he wasn't "made for marriage."

Look, lady. No man was ever made for marriage. Women are made for marriage, yes. It is what most of them want from the time that they are old enough to notice the boy next door.

But men aren't. Setting down to become good husbands and fathers isn't natural with them. Not at all. They have to be broken to the harness by the woman who succeeds in getting them to the altar.

That's the woman's job. Fortunately, most women realize that and don't throw up their hands helplessly the first time the man they married kicks up his heels a bit and looks longingly toward the open range.

It's true your husband came right out and claimed he wasn't made for marriage, prov-

ing himself either less tactful or more courageous than most men who have taken on wives.

But don't think just because they haven't been told, other women don't know their husbands weren't made for marriage either. They know, all right. But they don't let it discourage them. They just accept the fact as a challenge. And in 10 or 20 or 30 years they have steady, dependable husbands who aren't even conscious there is such a thing as an open range beyond the marriage which has neatly fenced them in.

So if you ever try marriage again, lady—don't be surprised if you once more find yourself living with a man who isn't made for marriage. There's no other kind.

And if there were, wouldn't marriage be dull for women? Imagine marrying a man who was made for marriage. It wouldn't be any challenge at all.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—Thorniest problem for the united nations military governors of Japan may come from the four million Japanese soldiers who have laid down their arms and an equal number of Jap civilians who have followed the armies of their conquests in Asia and the Pacific Islands.

The position of these Japs away from home is unique. They have surrendered. They are not, however, prisoners of war. They are under their own officers in their own camps. The problem is to move them back to their home islands.

Since Japan has no merchant marine left, they will have to be moved in united nations shipping. But Japs can't count on much better than a number three priority because the U. S. and allied forces in the Pacific have to be supplied and they have to be brought home before any thought is given to repatriating displaced Japs.

Since Jap expeditionary forces were expected to live off the lands they invaded, they had no elaborate supply system such as maintained U. S. army and navy in the Pacific. That was all right as long as the Japs were conquerors and could steal anything they needed. But it is no good for them now that they are defeated and since they are not prisoners of war do not have to be fed by their conquerors. That leaves the Japs with two alternatives. To buy food on the local market which may not have anything to sell. To hire out as labor troops until such times as they can be shipped back where they came from.

Reparations conditions may be imposed by General MacArthur to provide for the use of this Japanese labor in reconstruction of war damaged property in each area. But legally the Japs cannot be worked as prisoners of war under the Geneva convention. In this position the surrendered Japs are in exactly the same position as the surrendered Germans. Only the Germans could walk home and for the Japs it is a long swim from Singapore or Batavia to Tokyo bay. If the stranded Japs are going to eat, they

may have to hire out as contract labor at prevailing local wages. Each situation in U. S., British, Dutch or Philippine areas will be entirely different, however, and subject to the military commanders in each area.

Arrangements are now being completed so that General MacArthur, as supreme allied commander will have Australian, British, Canadian, Dutch, French, Russian and New Zealand advisors on his military government staff in Tokyo. There will be token occupation forces from these countries on the main Japanese islands, too. But the main responsibility is American and most of the advance planning is done in Washington.

The food situation in the main islands is also acute. Japan had to import food even before the war and now her fishing fleet is gone. Okinawa used to raise rice for the main islands but Okinawa is now largely an air base and no one has yet found a way to raise rice on concrete runways.

To dump from four to eight million repatriated Japanese on the home islands at one time would therefore create havoc, even though the invaded countries in which the Japs surrendered want to get rid of their unwelcome guests. The whole problem is calling for the most careful planning and timing.

The cost of moving the Japs back home must of course be met by the Japanese government. All the expenses of the Japanese occupation must be met by the Japanese government for that matter. Jap fiscal affairs will be under the closest of scrutiny by U. S. military government authorities.

The exchange value of the Japanese yen has been pegged at 15 to the dollar. Bank of Japan notes will continue in circulation but all Japanese military currency, which had nothing back of it, has been outlawed. U. S. occupation currency is good. It is mere shin plaster currency with which the U. S. occupation forces will pay their bills in Japan, but all this currency must be checked by the Japanese government. The check they pick up for the occupation party, needless to say, won't be small.

Side Glances



"Are you telling me they're making soap out of butter? Humph! Next week I suppose you'll try to make me believe they're making butter out of soap!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY America's Card Authority

CANADIANS PLAY WINNING BRIDGE

We missed some of the Canadian players at the summer nationals this year. However, Aaron Goodman and Samuel Gold of Montreal were able to come to the tournament, and our players were well impressed with their ability.

Today's hand was played by Goodman. He won the opening

♠ K Q 8 4 2	♠ 10 7 3		
♥ J 6	♥ K 7 3		
♦ K	♦ A 10 9 4 2		
♣ Q J 8 5 2	♣ None		
Gold	Goodman		
♠ A 9 4 2	♠ 10 7 3		
♥ Q 8 6 3	♥ K 7 3		
♦ A K 9 6	♦ A 10 9 4 2		
	♣ None		
	♠ 9 6 5		
	♥ Q 10 5		
	♦ J 7 5		
	♣ 10 7 4 3		
South	West	North	East
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
Opening—4♠			15

lead with the club king in dummy, discarding a heart from his own hand. Another heart was discarded on the club ace. Now Goodman led a small diamond from dummy and won North's singleton king with the ace. He had practically marked South with four clubs from the opening lead. With nothing to lose, he

BARBS

The army has terminated contracts for 20,000,000 packages of gum. Soon we'll all be able to choose our choice of chews.

It's a break for the Japs at that—the Stars and Stripes flying over Tokyo instead of American bombers.

The cancellation by Uncle Sam of orders for 165,135,000 packs of cigarettes leaves us not only staggered but puffing!

When doctors gave Hermann Goering a soda mint he thought it was his usual sedative and fell right off to sleep—the dope!

cashed his king of hearts and led a small heart to dummy. A heart was then ruffed, establishing dummy's fourth heart. The four of diamonds was led. South played the seven and dummy's eight won. The six of clubs was ruffed with the diamond nine. A spade was led to the ace and the club nine ruffed with the diamond ten. Goodman then led the spade seven, ruffed in dummy with the diamond six, picked up the last trump with the queen of diamonds and with the queen of diamonds, and the nine of hearts was good for the thirteenth trick.

IN FORMER YEARS

Thirty Years Ago—Virgilia Bond was dragged nearly a block this morning hanging by one foot from the seat of the buggy in which she and her brother had driven to school, her head the meanwhile dangling and scrapping on the pavement between the moving wheels. That the horse came to a voluntary halt near the barn on Fourth street where he is domiciled during school hours, is a fact to which is ascribed the salvation of her life.

That another of La Grande's native sons has confidence in his home town is shown by the fact that Dr. J. Ingle after four years away at college has returned to locate here.

Fifteen Years Ago—The Arcade theater will close soon for redecorating, installing of new seats, furniture, new heating device, new sign and new lighting fixtures. It will reopen as the Liberty theater.

Ten Years Ago—Osteopathic physicians from three states are gathering in La Grande tomorrow for their fall tri-state meeting.

The program for the eastern Oregon regional sale institute and of the annual meeting of the Union county Public Health association, both of which will be held here, was announced today.

This Curious World



ANSWER: An increase, not only from sunstroke and heat prostration, but other causes. NEXT: A warning to Nimrods.