

EDITORIAL PAGE

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It's Easy to See Which Path the President's Following



Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Sept. 10, this column told how Col. Richard T. Knight, commander at Morrison Field, Palm Beach, Fla., was not discharging 80-point men but was arguing with Washington against discharging them. At 2 p. m. Sept. 10, eight hours following the column's publication in the West Palm Beach Post, the transportation office of Morrison Field was told to prepare for a rush of men for discharge. Before the rush was over, 200 men had been processed and sent on to the discharges to which they were entitled. . . . Attention Lieut. Col. John A. Thompson, commander at Barton Field, Florida: Is it necessary to require troops under you, many of them with sufficient points to be discharged, to construct simulated horse-race equipment for entertainment use in the officers' club? . . . Despite an official announcement by the war department that all men of 35 with two years service would be eligible for discharge, the commanders of military government companies at the Presidio, Monterey, Calif., told 35-year-olds with two years service they are not eligible for discharge but would be required to work in separation centers in the U. S. A. . . . Gen. Harry Lewis Twaddle, commander of the 95th division, Camp Shelby, Miss., called together his troops the other day to explain occupation duty in Japan. The boos from the troops were so prolonged and so frequent that it took him 40 minutes to deliver a 15-minute speech. . . . Meanwhile at Camp Shelby, men report an attempt is being made to keep them busy using up equipment that is brand new, vehicles that are brand new, shooting ammunition on the range, and generally wasting government time and money.

Japs Still in Korea

Inside fact is that President Truman and top-side war department officials were just as surprised as the Australian government when General MacArthur continued the Koreans under the Japanese officials they had so long despised.

Explanation is that under the U. S. army system of operation, everything is left to the theater commander. Washington never intervenes. And especially with MacArthur, who has ideas of his own and doesn't hesitate to bowl out generals in the war department, there is no advice given him at any time.

About the nearest Secretary of War Stimson came to giving MacArthur advice was when he queried him as to why he hadn't let the surgeon-general of the army, Dr. Norman Kirk, enter Manila.

However, it can be stated that President Truman and all the cabinet feel just as strongly as the Australians regarding any Jap government continuing in Korea for more than a few days. And as a result of Australian protests, some discreet questions are going out to MacArthur asking him what the score is.

Merry-Go-Round

Rep. Margaret Chase Smith of Maine has added her voice to Senator Langer's to get a change in the navy enlisted man's uniform—and with some success. Apparently Forrestal is interested. . . . Tip-off on British labor's foreign policy: Signs increase that it will be just as reactionary as Churchill's. For instance, Prime Minister Attlee first offered the Washington ambassadorship to Sir John Anderson, former lord president of the council and one of the worst appeasers in Britain. It was Sir John who, shortly before the war, opposed constructing air raid shelters for civilians. When Anderson declined the ambassadorship, Halifax was reappointed. . . . Gen. Dan Sulton is back from China to promote a big credit for the Chinese government. It will run into real money—if the Truman administration goes for the idea of making China virtually an American colony. . . . It was a hush-hush secret during the war, but can now be revealed that several U. S. navy and coast guard ships were turned over to Russia at Cold Bay, Alaska.

One secret reason for the row between ex-attorney general Biddle and ex-assistant attorney general Norman Littell was the purchase of land for atomic bomb production near Pasco, Wash. The army's manner of taking over the land was not according to the rules, and Littell objected. Biddle, because of atomic bomb secrecy, sided with the army. . . . Judge Sam Rosenman is scheduled to be Truman's number one adviser on all foreign relief plus all loans and credit to foreign governments. . . . The feud between naval reserve and the Annapolis men is now hotter than ever. If you count up the number of Annapolis men decorated as compared with reserves, the discrimination against the latter is all too obvious.

Side Glances



"The war's over, alright! We're still in a plant and wearing the same work clothes, but no man has offered me a seat since the Japs surrendered!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY America's Card Authority

HE WHO HESITATES OFTEN IS LOSER

There is no more enthusiastic bridge player than Sigmund Freisinger of Cliffside Park, N. J. I doubt that he ever plays rubber bridge, but he loves duplicate. At the recent summer nation tournament he played with Mrs. Richard H. Adams of New York and they won the President's Cup game from the largest

to dummy's ace. The king and queen of hearts were cashed, another club won with dummy's ten, the queen of clubs was cashed, and the losing diamond discarded on the ace of hearts. The fourth heart was ruffed, the club king picked up the jack, and the ace of spades was conceded.

IN FORMER YEARS

Thirty Years Ago— Attorney H. E. Dixon has been named attorney for Union county for the State Land bank.

Roscoe Neal's bid for the construction of several blocks of cement sidewalk on First street from Jefferson to Spring under which the city will build a cement ditch, was accepted by the city commission last night.

Fifteen Years Ago— The Rev. J. George Walz, of the Presbyterian church, was re-elected president of the La Grande Ministerial association at its annual business meeting this morning. Opening of the deer season this morning resulted in 25 deer reported by local hunters with a four point, 22 1/2 pound buck bagged by George Campbell topping the list of killings.

Ten Years Ago— Something new in football schedules has been taken on by La Grande High school this month. Quite frequently some large school takes on an opening day double header with two "breather" teams, but this weekend La Grande will play Weiser, Ida., here Friday and then go to Walla Walla Saturday afternoon for a contest with Wa-Hi Blue Devils.

Three La Grande men, H. H. Richardson and Lynn Larson, president and secretary, respectively, of the Commercial club, and Dr. C. L. Gilstrap, chairman of the aviation committees of the Commercial club and Lions club, motored to Pendleton yesterday to attend a hearing held by the Oregon state board of aeronautics. The chief purpose of the meeting was to seek to unite Oregonians in an effort to obtain an army airbase for some point in this state.

7643	Mr. Adams
J642	A 1092
3	A 1053
J732	J9
Freisinger	Dealer
KQ5	A 1087542
KQ	None
A6	None
K986	None
54	None
A8	None
987	None
KQ1087542	None
None	None
Duplicate—N-S vul.	
South West North East	
1♦ Double Pass 2♦	
5♣ 6♣ Pass Pass	
Opening—♦ 3.	17

field ever entered in this contest. While today's hand required careful play, I liked particularly the way they bid it. If South had opened with a pre-emptive diamond bid, it might have prevented Freisinger and Mrs. Adams from getting to the slam in clubs. Mrs. Adams' two-diamond bid said, "Partner, you select the suit." South saw what was in the wind and put in his pre-emptive diamond bid, but it was too late. After winning the opening diamond lead, Freisinger led a club

BARBS

Doubtless the youngsters returning to school were disappointed to find that studies weren't rationed.

When wartime is done away with we're going to miss that very early morning chirp of the birds. Or are we?

A lot of our highways indicate somebody thinks we're going to switch over completely to air-plane travel.

One thing in common with most married men is the line of funny things said to the wife before company.

This Curious World

ABOUT 40 PER CENT OF ALL HUNTING ACCIDENTS ARE CAUSED BY HUNTERS SHOOTING THEMSELVES.

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Quoting Odds

A DEBUTANTE HAS A CHANCE OF GETTING OUT PARTY BEFORE GOING INTO SOCIETY." Says MRS. ELEANOR R. MILLER, Sacramento, California.

A TORNADO

THAT STRUCK THE LITTLE TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH, IOWA, ON JULY 25TH, 1840, TOOK NO HUMAN LIFE, BUT DESTROYED 1,000 BIRDS WITHIN THE 100-ACRE LIMITS OF THE TOWN.

NEXT: The Rockies and the Urels.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Exquisite pleasures that will soon be dulled by habit but now are new and bright: Going into a drugstore and asking for a pack of cigarettes by naming your favorite brand. Knowing that Thanksgiving or Christmas you can get rid of those baggy rayon stockings and replace them with nylons. Buying canned goods without counting your blue points first. Spreading REAL butter on your breakfast toast. Discovering what have been hard or impossible to get articles climbing back on store shelves. Taking week-end trips in the family car or going out in it just for the ride. Being treated pleasantly by waiters and having clerks actually smile at you.

Not having to meekly accept poor service because of "war conditions." Seeing more and more servicemen and men with discharge buttons on the streets of your home town. Being invited to parties in honor of men who are coming home instead of for men who are about to go overseas. Looking at your old household equipment that miraculously held together through the war and thinking "Well, in just a little while you can go ahead and fall apart." Being allowed to be as optimistic as you please, instead of being told constantly that optimism is dangerous. Waking up each morning to the wonderful realization that the war is over and with it most of your gravest worries.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, the young University of California physicist who was in charge of the scientific work in developing the atomic bomb, says he would like to go some place and run a lunch room. He is terribly tired after three years of the most intense mental strain any human being ever had to undergo. Yet he does not show it. His blue eyes sparkle and his smile is human and warm. He is nervous tense, but he has probably always been that way. High strung like a race horse.

As a Hollywood scientist, he probably wouldn't be much good. No whiskers. His brown hair is crew cut and unruly. He is slender and of medium height. He wears youngish clothes, crowned with a tan felt pork pie hat so battered it is positively collegiate. Yet he is probably the outstanding theoretical physicist in the United States today. His part of the atomic bomb development was running the research laboratories at Los Alamos, N. M. It employed 6,000 persons and is still so secret that Dr. Oppenheimer has to interview his visitors at the gate.

Of course, Dr. Oppenheimer won't go run any lunch room. He is all wrapped up in this atomic thing he and his associates have unleashed. He wants to know what is going to be done with it next. After all, he says, scientists are primarily humanists. People are inclined to forget that. Scientists aren't interested in the things they do in a narrow sense. It is the effect of what they do on humanity and everyday life that counts.

On that line of reasoning the atom wasn't split just to make a better bomb. It wasn't even split to end the war in a hurry, though that is certainly a humanistic goal in itself. It is the next job given to atomic session that is important. Dr. Oppenheimer finds it difficult to understand why this subject isn't being debated constantly. Scientists at Los Alamos in their spare time sit and worry about the future of this power. Some may even wish they had failed in their at-

tempt to break its secret. Future use of the three atomic bomb plants isn't just another simple problem in surplus war plant disposal. The three centers cannot be disposed of separately, nor can they be broken up and passed out to small business.

The laboratory at Los Alamos and the production plants in Tennessee and Washington are a big business—a two billion-dollar big business. They combine in one integrated unit. And they are not just something to put in grease and keep in stand-by condition until the world needs more atomic bombs dropped some place else to cure a cancerous trouble like war. In peacetime the bombs are mere by-products.

Already conditions may have been created to knock the bottom out of the world radium market. That's big news. If the price of radium goes down, it means that more hospitals will be able to afford the tiny capsules whose rays possess such miraculous curative power. Before you know it, more lives may be saved by the products of the still secret Clingon and Hanford Engineering Works than their atomic bomb products destroyed. Here's where your humanism begins to come in.

Perhaps still greater is the possibility of developing atomic power—harnessing this tremendous energy of a splitting atom so it can do constructive instead of destructive work. The three government-owned plants have the potential to make this next progressive step.

When the president sends to congress his promised special message on control of the atomic secret, it should not be considered merely as a military problem. It is bigger than that. Consideration must also be given to continuing the work of these scientists at Los Alamos. Their teams should not be broken up in the national interest and in the interest of humanity their job has just begun. Any politician who talks about stopping now, or trying to lock up the secret of the atom, is talking nonsense.

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

Intelligent Selfishness

James F. Lincoln of Cleveland, O., has offered President Truman and the forthcoming labor-management conference the benefit of experience acquired by the Lincoln Electric Co., which he heads, in avoiding industrial strife.

Mr. Lincoln's industrial relations technique seems worthy of the conference's attention. He has proceeded on the assumption that a great variety of human endeavors, from merchandising to war-making, arises from selfishness. And he has evolved a system which he calls "intelligent selfishness," designed to benefit both management and workers.

In 1914, Lincoln Electric set up an advisory board of representatives elected by each plant department and the foremen, plus the plant superintendent and company president, which has authority over all man and shop operations. In the same year the company reduced the work week from the prevailing 55 hours to 50, and raised wage rates 10 per cent according to a piecework plan that has operated successfully ever since.

In the ensuing 30 years, the company has instituted free life insurance for workers, paid vacations, sale of stock to employees, cash payments for suggestions toward improving methods or de-

signs, bonus payments, retirement annuities and trust funds.

In a letter to the president, Mr. Lincoln states that no time has ever been lost through labor-management misunderstanding, and that in the past 20 years no wage reductions have been made nor any person laid off through lack of work. In the same period, says Mr. Lincoln, earnings and employment have increased fourfold while the selling price of Lincoln products has been reduced 60 per cent.

Today Mr. Lincoln claims that his factory workers draw the world's highest industrial pay (an average of \$5400 annually) and have a higher hourly production record than any company making a comparable product.

Lincoln Electric has no labor union, and thus has probably had charges of "paternalism" thrown at it. But there seems no logical reason why Lincoln methods, if they are as effective as they seem to be, would not work just as well in union shops, provided there existed a mutual desire to make them work.

Most of our industrial strife can be traced to unintelligent selfishness. Such selfishness brought a heavy governmental crackdown on management in the past decade. Such selfishness brought public censure upon labor during the war, and a recent warning from Labor Secretary Schwelmbach to "put its house in order." None of it has worked to anybody's ultimate good.

Mr. Lincoln's "intelligent selfishness" is a fresh, frank and welcome substitute for the overworked term, "labor-management co-operation." Perhaps this conception of industrial relations, and its accomplishments, will give both sides

Funny Business



SO THEY SAY

Order and progress in international affairs is essential for order and progress in America. We cannot have one without the other.

—Gary, Ind., Post-Tribune.

The work of the scientist is of little value unless society is so organized that the masses may share in the results of discoveries.

—Reuben G. Gustavson, vice president, University of Chicago.

The oysters never looked fatter nor better. The oyster outlook has not been so bright in many years.

—Joseph N. Fowler, director of Shell Fisheries Council, New Jersey State Department of Conservation.

The question before the world now is whether this is peace or an armistice—a temporary lull between wars.

—Beaumont, Tex., Journal.