

EDITORIAL PAGE

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And Where It Stops Nobody Knows



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

Breach for breach, eye for eye, tooth for tooth: as he hath caused a blemish in a man, so shall it be done to him again.—Leviticus 24:20.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Those who plot the destruction of other often fall themselves.—Phaedrus.

Accused and On Trial

Once again a series of discussions vital to the lives and welfare of all people has been carried on in secret. But fortunately the doors of Lancaster House in London, where the Council of Foreign Ministers has been meeting, are not leakproof. So this conference, like so many others, has been reported by means of rumors, whispers and confidences.

What the world, and particularly this country, has heard through these "leaks" has not been encouraging. Veteran and usually imperturbable reporters have written darkly pessimistic stories. Day after day they have told of angry words and widening rifts. About the most cheerful thing they could say was that the difficulties are perhaps not insoluble.

What has happened in London is, in a way, more significant than the historic proceedings in San Francisco. There the discussions covered only the general structure of a world peace organization. Difficulties were expected, though when they appeared they were

of such proportions as to threaten a blow-up of the whole conference for a few anxious days.

Now the foreign ministers of the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China have had to tackle the job of translating the high principles of the Atlantic charter and San Francisco into concrete terms. They have had to make a start at settling problems of the recent war and drawing up peace treaties for their recent enemies.

Reports from London indicate that they not only have failed to lay the groundwork for peace treaties, but have actually started to split Europe into the inimical eastern and western blocs which Hitler hoped for but couldn't achieve.

Soviet Foreign Commissar Molotov is said to have remarked angrily during one meeting: "You would think I was accused and on trial." In a manner of speaking, he is. So is British Foreign Secretary Bevin. So, perhaps, is Secretary of State Byrnes—though his role of conciliator seems to be impossibly difficult.

If the pessimistic reports are accurate, Mr. Molotov and Mr. Bevin certainly stand accused of starting to re-establish hostile spheres of influence which, as they well know, are breeders of war. They stand accused of forgetting the principles of world security to which their governments are committed, and of being jealously and fearfully nationalistic, and stubbornly power-minded.

They stand accused of insincerity in their claims of "independence" and "full representation" in present Baltic governments. They are on trial for betraying the prayerful wishes of the ordinary people who fight and suffer and die in wars by pursuing a course which could render the United Nations organization impotent even before its first meeting.

Naturally no country, including any of the great powers, wishes or is able to fight a war now. But unless these foreign ministers and their chiefs of state take a different tack, the prospect of lasting peace is bleak indeed.

Funny Business



"He still can't get the navy out of his system!"

SO THEY SAY

For the next two years, most rubber produced will be synthetic since it is conservatively estimated it will take that long before shipments of natural rubber from liberated areas will radically alter synthetic output.

—E. A. Holstein, Detroit rubber company executive.

President Truman is no miracle man. But for a plodding sort of fellow, he seems to be getting things done in the diplomatic field.

—Washington, D. C., News.

The Hitlerite criminals must carry full responsibility for their monstrous atrocities and Germany must compensate for the damage done to our country (Russia).

—Pravda, Moscow.

Training and education are two ways to reduce the number of unemployed.

—Heiema, Mont. Independent-Record.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — Democrat members of the house ways and means committee last week saw President Truman, for the first time since he became president, hopping mad at congress. They received a call Wednesday afternoon from Chairman "Muley Bob" Doughton asking all democrats to be at the White House at 10 the next morning. Having just agreed to solve the unemployment compensation bill, they had a clear idea of what was coming.

Little time was wasted in pleasantries. The president had only a curt nod or "hello" for the members as they came in, then plunged at once into his subject. The unemployment compensation features provided in his message must be enacted, he said, before he could feel congress has done the job the people expect. For 45 minutes, the president sat and discussed the bill with the congressmen, and not a single smile cracked his face.

Closest he came to a smile was when he said: "President Roosevelt always used to rely upon the house to help him out against the senate. I thought I could rely upon the senate. 'But,' the former senator from Missouri added, 'it looks like I'm having a little trouble there now.'"

He referred to the senate's pruning of the original unemployment compensation bill offered by Senator Harley Kilgore of West Virginia.

Early in the conference, Representatives Dingell of Michigan, Eberharter of Pennsylvania and Forand of Rhode Island told the president that they agreed with his program and would like to see the house vote the \$25 and 26-week provisions the senate had knocked out. Chairman Doughton, half-hearted author of a bill including these provisions but not the full Kilgore bill, glared fiercely, while Forand reminded the president he had himself introduced a bill calling for everything in the Kilgore bill.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Every time you pick up a woman's magazine these days it seems you find an article about the returning serviceman—which dishes out advice to the little woman back home.

The gist of them all is that the girl who has waited out the war patiently must practice even more patience and understanding when her man comes home.

An article in the current issue of a national woman's magazine is fairly typical. Written by a returned serviceman it warns wives that their returned serviceman who found it almost intolerable to live apart from his wife may find it difficult to readjust himself to living with her again. "Patience and understanding" are suggested as the antidote.

According to this magazine version, the returned veteran may prove short-tempered and may have a tendency to say things he doesn't mean. He has been accustomed to little female society and may feel at first—according to the article—that there can be such thing as too much such association. He may have built up a sort of goddess-like ideal during his absence which the little woman back home may find it extremely

difficult to live up to. Well, if the writer is putting down facts—what does that make the returning serviceman? A guy who comes home so filled with his part in the war he doesn't even see what his wife has had to put up with during the long, lonely years. A man—who, though he expected his wife to be faithful—might be comparing her to "those other women he has known."

A man who, finding his adjustment to civilian life hard, will take it out on you and will be short-tempered and say things he doesn't mean.

A man who will be so immature as to expect you to measure up to a goddess image which he has built up in his own mind.

Probably the article is exaggerated—and if so, it has no business being printed in a woman's magazine where it can scare a bunch of women who have already been scared enough during the war years.

If it isn't exaggerated, then it doesn't look as though you ought to go all out for patience and understanding. It looks as though you ought to tell that returning serviceman to be his age and quit being a returned hero. And the sooner the better—for you both.

tribulation in dummy, as well as in his own hand, he decided to provide against freak distribution in the opponents' hands. He won the first club trick, and immediately cashed the king of diamonds. He entered dummy by ruffing the ace of diamonds, discarded the heart nine. His next play was the jack of diamonds, and he made up his mind that, regardless of East's play, he was going to discard the king of hearts. This play cannot lose, as the queen of diamonds is the only card of that suit outstanding. East ruffed with the nine of spades, a nice play. If Roth over-ruffed with the jack, he still would lose a spade and a heart; but by discarding the king of hearts, Roth could ruff low any return made by East, pick up the outstanding trumps and make his contract.

Side Glances



"I thought I'd be relieved when he got out of the parachute troops, but in this game when he comes down all those players pile on top of him!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY America's Card Authority

BRIDGE END-PLAY SCORES TOUCHDOWN

There is an interesting end-play in today's hand, played by

♠ 10752	W	N	E	♠ 9
♥ A Q	W	N	E	♥ J 8 6 4 3
♦ Q 7 8	W	N	E	♦ 9 4
♣ J 10 9 8	W	N	E	♣ 7 5 4 3 2
	Dealer			
	Roth			
	♠ A K Q J 6 4 3			
	♥ K 9			
	♦ K			
	♣ A K Q			
	Rubber—Neither vul.			
South	West	North	East	
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass	
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass	
5 ♠	Pass	5 ♠	Pass	
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass	
Opening—♠ J				3

Cpl. Alvin Roth in a rubber bridge game at the Mayfair Bridge club in New York.

When Roth saw the freak dis-

BARBS

This is the season when cold germs don't seem to care anything about how important you are.

A check seems like a pretty good time to prune the national budget by pulling off a few plums.

People who live on second, third and fourth floors probably don't blame the cliff dwellers for becoming extinct.

We can be thankful money does not talk as much as some of the people who have it.

The army is releasing more than 23,000,000 rounds of shotgun ammunition for hunters. Head for the house, folks, and bar the windows!

The corn crop looks pretty good this year—especially to the corn borer.

The best waitresses in the summer resort hotels were the inexperienced.

Most people who take things as they come don't know what to do with them.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—A suggestion that the labor-management conference convening in Washington Nov. 5 be continued indefinitely as a policy-making advisory group to congress and the executive branches of the government is receiving considerable attention. The idea is attributed to President Truman himself. The president will probably address the representatives from industry and union groups at their initial session.

Under the continuing conference plan now being discussed an executive committee of labor and industry heads would meet regularly in Washington to consider the current labor situation. It would consist of only four or five members from the pot industrial and union groups. The full membership of the conference would then meet only on emergency call, or regularly every two or three months, for major decisions on labor policy.

A list of participants in the coming conference will be announced during the first week in October. It will consist of 18 representatives from labor. One from management, three or four from government—secretary of labor Schwellenbach, secretary of commerce Wallace, a big name chairman and a secretary.

The conference has been kept small so that it will be a real working body. The conferees will be invited to participate by the president. A number of gate crashers from both employers and independent unions have already exerted considerable pressure to get invitations so that they may present their pet theories on labor relations. They probably won't be admitted, even as observers. Invited conferees will be permitted to have advisers and consultants, but the total number of the conference room in the department of labor may not exceed 100. All sessions of the conference will be closed.

In picking the delegates, only the top men—the real policy makers of both labor and management—are being sought. For labor, this means William Green, John L. Lewis, Phil Murray, Sidney Hillman and other leaders from the major union movements. For industry it means E. A. Johnston of the U. S. chamber of commerce, Ira Mosher

of the National Association of Manufacturers, and the chairman of the boards of some of the major employers corporations of the country. Corporation presidents, operating managers of labor-relations directors aren't wanted. The purpose of this is to get the real directing heads who can make policy decisions that will stick and will not have to be referred back to higher authority for approval.

It is almost inevitable that there will be some disputes in any such assembly. Among the labor leaders are some men with bitter personal experiences in years of labor war. They will support their convictions that all management is made up of exploiters. In management are some occupants of walnut paneled towers who believe that all labor organizers are rogues and radicals who should be dealt with only at the end of a club.

There are bitter rivalries even within the separate labor and management groups. The big corporations compete for commercial advantage. It is worse than the Cabots and Lowells. A F. of L. Green must get permission from his executive committee before he can sit down with C. I. O. Murray, and then it can be gone only with the government present as chaperon. Murray doesn't speak to Lewis and Lewis speaks only to himself.

Just getting all these antagonistic elements together in the same conference room will be something of an achievement, but it is obviously necessary if any kind of national labor policy formula is to be written. A suggestion has been made that the chief conferees sit alternately at the table—labor, management, labor, management—and so on around the idea is that this will break up any semblance of having opposing sides at the conference—labor on one side opposing management on the other.

Another suggestion has been to have the top conferees meet informally—socially, as it were—to get acquainted before they sit down formally to deliberate on a few simple principals by which industrial strife and strain can be minimized even just a little, for their own and the nation's greater good.

This Curious World



ANSWER: Independence, Missouri.
NEXT: Can a pigeon outspeed an express train?