

EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

SATURDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 6, 1945

Page Two

Just to Keep the Records Straight



Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—There is a lot more than meets the eye behind the ouster of pistol-packing, Gen. George S. Patton, Jr. as governor of Bavaria. Actually, members of General Eisenhower's staff knew for weeks that he was disregarding orders, but winked at it until Ray Daniell of the New York Times exposed Patton's flagrant cooperation with top nazis and his keeping of U. S. troops in tents while U. S. officers were entertained in luxurious nazi homes. For instance, at a meeting of allied military governors called by Generals Eisenhower and Clay at supreme headquarters from Aug. 27 to 29, Patton vigorously and openly objected to Clay's orders on de-nazification. Clay had demanded that no nazis be used under American occupation forces.

"Hell's bells," exploded Patton, "when a fellow goes into a town without a burgo-meister, who is invariably a nazi, he will be up the creek without a paddle."

General Clay bristled and replied, "we're not here to run Germany efficiently. We're here to get the nazis out."

Despite this, however, Patton went his own sweet way, ignoring orders. It should be said for him, however, that others did the same. There are four reasons for the flagrant disregard of Eisenhower's orders by his officers. Many of them don't believe in a tough peace for Germany. Some want to build up Germany as a bulwark against Russia. Some are production men by trade and are therefore anxious to see Germany produce. Some were actively engaged in doing business with Germany before the war, so believe in rebuilding Germany as a good customer.

A sample of the type of men in top control of Germany is Brig. Gen. William H. Draper, head of Dillon, Read & Co., which did considerable business with the nazis before the war. Draper is in charge of overall economic policies and constantly pursues a plan of rebuilding Germany.

Col. James Boyd, an industrialist, sees things the same way as Draper.

Boyd's deputy is Ellis S. Hoagland, who was General Motors' representative in Germany and on good terms with German industrial magnates before Pearl Harbor.

Another official supposed to de-nazify Germany is Rufus J. Mysor, former head of Republic Steel. He had considerable dealings with the Germans before the war and is a good friend of all the heads of the German steel trusts.

"Must Use Nazis"

At one meeting in Frankfurt recently, Colonel Boyd asked flatly, "how can I be expected to get the industry of Germany going if I can't use German and nazi cartels?"

At a similar meeting, Mysor said, "the most important people in the steel industry were close to the nazis. How can you run industry if you get rid of the nazis?"

The head of the transportation section, Gen. John A. Appleton, insists on using Herr Dortenmuller, who had been in charge of the railways for the nazis, after our occupation. He only stopped using Dortenmuller when Dortenmuller died at the age of 80.

When Brig. Gen. Frank Mead, who is in charge of communications, was ordered to de-nazify the communications industry, he refused and told one meeting he was "going to shower requests for exceptions on the control council" if not allowed to use nazis.

The man in charge of watching the de-nazification program for General Clay is Bob Murphy of state department fame.

Murphy made a report to Clay and Eisenhower in August, stating that the de-nazification program had already been completed. Actually it had not even been begun. Only since a furor broke in the American press and since General Patton frankly admitted he wasn't obeying orders, have Eisenhower and Clay started cleaning house.

Capitol Chaff

William Benson, new assistant secretary of state in charge of press relations is one of the first top state department officials who has doffed the stuffed shirt, meets visitors with his sleeves rolled up. . . . Joe Berger of the democrat national committee does his best work with his shoes and socks off. Sometimes visitors catch him that way. . . . Jimmy Byrnes' office got another painting while he attended the London conference.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

It has finally been revealed that husbands of bridge-playing women were rejected for work on the atomic bomb.

Why? Because, according to Dr. Joseph C. Morris of Tulane university, who aided in the recruiting of workers, it was feared "the bridge-playing wife would worm the secret of her husband's job from him and then inadvertently let that secret slip out over the bridge table."

They were wise men who foresaw that potential threat to military secrecy.

For if private matters that should remain private ever come out anywhere—it is over the bridge table when a bunch of women start trying to out-do each other in proving how much they know that the others don't know.

Competition for center of the stage in a strictly feminine gathering does something to women that makes them tell things they know they haven't any business telling.

And it isn't hard to imagine that the wife of an atomic bomb worker—forced to listen during bridge game after bridge game to other women bragging about their husbands overseas—might one day weaken and say definitely, "Well, George isn't in uniform but . . ." And then go on to impress the other women with the importance of George's civilian job.

For women just can't be bested at bridge-table gossip—and what a woman knows is fully as important to the enjoyment of the game as the cards she holds and how she plays them.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Ex Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson will not be named presiding officer of the forthcoming labor-management conference after all. His health will not permit him to take the arduous assignment. No announcement was made of it at the time, but the venerable statesman sustained a heart attack at the White House on his 78th birthday. This was the day he left Washington. He recovered remarkably and was able to leave on his own feet, though the attack did delay his takeoff from Washington airport by nearly an hour.

The 5,000 Japanese prisoners of war now held in the United States will be shipped back where they came from soon. General MacArthur has advised Washington the POWs can be absorbed without difficulty and Maj. Gen. Archer L. Leach, the provost marshal general, has flown to Japan to complete arrangements for the transfer. Most of the Jap prisoners in the U. S. were captured in early Pacific campaigns and they remained obstinately irreconcilable up to the day the emperor threw in the sponge, towel, glove and works. A few days before that, a small group at Camp McCoy, Wis., did send in a petition signed in blood, swearing that on return to Japan they would work for democracy. Jap POW were held mainly in camps near Sparta, Wis., Clarinda, Ia., and Kennedy, Tex. They were employed principally on army post work, in laundry work, repairing gas masks, quarrying rock and so on. They were kept on a Japanese diet, largely rice and fish. The rule was that no food should be wasted and the Japs even ate the fish heads and liked 'em.

Before the senate's education and labor subcommittee began hearings on Senator Claude Pepper's bill to increase the minimum wage to 55 cents an hour now and to 75 cents two years later, Louisiana Senator Allen J. Ellender sent word to labor leaders backing the bill that he would have to oppose it. Usually Ellender votes with the New Dealers. But on this measure it was explained that Ellender couldn't go along because the sugar producers, food processors and lumbermen of his state were against it. At the hearings, Ellender went into his

act and argued fervently that with 65 cents minimum wage, the country would be worse off than with a 40 cent rate.

Eric A. Johnston, new head of the motion picture producers and successor to "Czar" Will Hayes, recently installed a profit-sharing plan for the employees in his electrical concerns in the northwest. Briefly the plan called for setting aside 25 per cent of the net profits after taxes, for division among employees on the basis of their seniority in service and salary scales. After the plan was put in effect, a group of the employees protested. It wasn't fair, they said, to the stability of the company or the stockholders. To Johnston's surprise, what they proposed was that six percent of the net profits be set aside for the stockholders first, before any allocation was made for profit-sharing among the employees.

So many drafts of plans for the government of Germany have been made that it is almost impossible to keep up with them. That fact led former Secretary of Treasury Henry W. Morgenthau astray the other day when he criticized the government because it had not made public its plan known as JC-1067—Joint Chiefs of Staff Memo No. 1067. Morgenthau made this criticism of his former pals while putting in a plug for his own forthcoming book, "Germany Is Our Problem," in which he finally reveals—with President Roosevelt's deathbed permission—the famous Morgenthau plan of 1944 for governing Germany. The joker is that Morgenthau's plan is now completely out of date. It was succeeded by 1067, and that was succeeded by IPCOG-1—the Interdepartmental Policy Committee on Germany plan which constituted Gen. Eisenhower's secret orders for the initial period of occupation. This plan was taken to Potsdam by President Truman, where it was modified by Russia and Britain to make the Potsdam declaration. That in turn was translated into the proclamations announced by the allied commanders in Berlin in late September. Morgenthau's criticism of the Truman administration for not making public 1067 doesn't add up because he had it in his hands when he was Secretary of the Treasury. He was asked to make it public, and didn't.

Side Glances



McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY America's Card Authority

IF FINESSE WORKS—BIG BRIDGE QUESTION

Today's hand is not difficult, but it is interesting. Declarer has

♠ 8763	♥ 952
♦ AQ106	♣ 854
♣ A63	♦ J1098
♠ AKJ10	♥ 73
♦ K52	♣ J73
♠ K1094	♥ Dealer
♠ Q4	♥ KJ92
♦ 74	♠ AQ852
Duplicate—Neither vul.	
South West North East	
Pass 1♣ Double Pass	
Pass 1♠ Double Pass	
2♥ Pass 4♥ Pass	
Opening—♠ K.	8

the fun of manipulating the cards in dummy and his own hand in

BARBS

Top courtesy has returned to the gas stations. Not only do you get gasoline, but the old oil.

It is estimated that 8,000,000 cleaners will be sold in the U. S. in the next three years. Knock, knock, knock—guess who's at the door!

This is the season for local victory or community chest



drives. Those who contribute have a right to throw out their own chests.

When you leave fats in the soup, you do the same to your Uncle Sam. The war is over, but fat saving isn't.

All the talk about tax cuts raises the question—when will our government be able to quit living beyond our means?

Home-made girls are the ones who seem to make the best homes.

All during the cigaret shortage it was the good old well-smoked pipe that took the cake.

order to make a lot of tricks. When the opponents cash the first two spade tricks and then lead the jack of spades, South ruffs, and can see the possibility of winning the balance of the tricks by making four trumps in his own hand, four in dummy, the ace of clubs and the ace-queen of diamonds if the finesse works.

After ruffing the third spade with the deuce of hearts, South leads the seven of diamonds and takes the finesse. When it holds, he leads back the ace of diamonds and then can cross-ruff the whole hand out.

West could have held the hand to four-odd by leading a heart after cashing the ace and king of spades. As a matter of fact, he might have defeated the contract if he had shifted to a heart after winning the first spade trick.

IN FORMER YEARS

Thirty Years Ago—Grover Grimmer won the 10-mile automobile race at the county fair with a time of 16:27.

The engagement of Mrs. Norman Galt and President Wilson was announced last night.

A petition circulated by a citizens' committee asking that the charter of La Grande be submitted to an amendment election at the regular election the second Monday of December, was put before the city commission last night, and a resolution was adopted by the city placing such an amendment on the city ballot.

Fifteen Years Ago—La Grande received one of the heaviest rainfalls of the year yesterday and early today, with nearly an inch and a half of rain falling between 7 a. m. yesterday and the same time this morning.

The downpour is considered of great worth to this section, as clear weather a little later on is expected to make conditions ideal for fall plowing and seeding.

Ten Years Ago—Detroit Tigers won their first world baseball championship today, beating the Chicago Cubs 4 to 3.

Necessity of a larger room for school music classes is another reason why the proposed \$72,727 addition to the La Grande high school buildings is favored by school authorities.

This Curious World



Quoting Odds

"A TYPIST MAY HAVE A PERFECT TOUCH SYSTEM, YET NEVER BORROW." —Sgt. R. BILL WILLIAMSON, Lafayette, Louisiana.



NEXT: Square meal for an Eskimo.

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

TODAY'S TEXT
And if he (thy brother) trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him. —Luke 17:4.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY
What ardently we wish, we soon believe. —Young.

Good News From China

The Moscow report that the Kuomintang and the Chinese communists have reached an agreement is, if true, about the most encouraging news that could be hoped for in the world today.

The differences between Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and the communists were bitter and of long standing. Their views and aims were radically opposed. Both sought control of all China. Both had legitimate claims of one sort or another to back them up.

Their combined efforts against the Japanese had the earmarks of an armed truce which seemed destined to end when the invader was expelled. Informed students of modern China feared a tragic civil war which might draw in Russia and force the reluctant intervention of the United States.

If the Generalissimo and Mao Tse-tung, the communist leader, have reached a compromise, it is a feat of diplomacy for which the whole world owes them thanks. And if the report of an

agreement to reform the national government is good news, the forecast of general elections at an early date is even better.

We Americans sometimes forget that free, honest, general election are a blessing and accorded the people of every nation. We often go off the beam on the emotional binge that precedes our elections. But, with rare exceptions, the vote itself is an uninflected, unhampered and satisfactory solution of our major political problems.

Free general elections probably could settle the majority of the world's political problems today with equal satisfaction. But they are a device that fills some heads of state with fear, and others with a sincere, convinced distaste.

Naturally, a government which holds office by force of arms fears the popular will. But there are also political philosophies which hold that a narrowly representative government is preferable to one chosen democratically. If premier Stalin, for example, were to be a candidate for the office he now holds in a general American-type election, he probably would win hands down. But it isn't likely that the victory would change the present Russian government's attitude toward a wide open political field.

So if Generalissimo Chiang and Mr. Mao have decided to reshape China's government according to the popular will, it is a great and historic decision. A free election there would do much to give new meaning to the word democracy, which was twisted into a variety of amazing shapes to fit a variety of purposes during the years of military alliance against the axis.

Funny Business



SO THEY SAY

The atomic bomb is to humanity what DDT is to fleas and mosquitoes. It has telescoped time—and questions that might have called for answers in a decade or so before atomic energy became available are now in a nimmer-date "do or die" category. —Dr. Harry D. Giese, president, Brooklyn College.

Waste can never lead to prosperity, no matter what sophistry is used to make it appear otherwise. —Yakima, Wash., Herald.

We must reconcile ourselves to the fact that room for tax reductions at this time is limited. A total war cannot be liquidated overnight. —President Harry S. Truman.

Now we hope that after the cessation of monstrous killing and massacre that hatred will cease together with ambition for domination and oppression of the weak. —Pope Pius XII.