EDITORIAL PAGE

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A Few Feminine Touches Could Work Wonders

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

If there were no God, it would be necesary to invent Him.—Voltaire.

Our New National Defense

Even those who favor our retaining the secret of the atomic bomb concede that the secret won't be secret very long. And once the cataclysmic weapon has passed into other hands, there will be frantic demands for a defense against it.

Whether the Crosby Foundation's discovery is the answer, is still a question. But it is the urgent advice of three of the army air forces' top combat officers that this country develop a defense as soon as possible. The recently expressed views of Gen. Carl Spaatz and Lieut-Gens. Jimmy Doolittle and Curtis LeMay are substantially as follows:

The atomic bomb is an airborne weapon, and any defense against it obviously must be an aerial defense. Various new air weapons and devices were developed during the war, such as radar, radio fuses, rockets, jet planes and guided missiles. But we have much to learn about all of them.

The generals did not discount the efforts of statesmen to create a lasting peace. But, as General LeMay said, "we've also got to be ready."

"We found out this time that being peace-loving didn't stop us from getting into a fight," he continued. "Maybe being strong and ready will do it. At any rate, our record on peace stands for itself, and I don't think any nation could justifiably conclude that by maintaining our strength we are doing anything but acting in self-defense."

The general's plain speaking is welcome at a time when the whole country has been understandably confused about the whole subject of atomic power. There has been a tendency to assume that there was no possible defense against the bomb, and that aircraft and other conventional weapons have been ruled out.

This fatalistic attitude is supported by the admitted fact that a defense against the atomic bomb does not lie in anything that we know today. But the secret may lie in the new field of aerodynamics that is just opening up. Some military and industry leaders believe that, in five or 10 years, guided missiles and automaticaly controlled aircraft will have replaced the present military airplane with its human crew.

Whatever the speculation, one thing is certain. A big part of our future national defense will be the responsibility of military aviation. And for some time to come its function will be confined largely to the field of research and trial production.

Such a program will require that the air arm be on a par with the other branches of the service. And it may be hoped that congress, as guardian of the public purse, and the voters who elect congress will not stint or neglect that program by undue insistence on economy, drastic reduction of peacetime military forces, and a completely demilitarized way of life.

Funny Business

"Beer mugs—reconversion was simple in this plant!"

● SO THEY SAY

That guy (Hideki Tojo, former Jap premier) ought to have a bad conduct ribbon with nine poison oakleaf clusters.
—Pfc. Donald Kincaid, one of Tojo's guards.

Since President Roosevelt's death, there has been no shift in the American policy of friendliness toward the Soviet Union.
—Joseph C. Grew, acting secretary of state.

If the world is to have peace, the American government must abandon its policy of underwriting the ruthless imperialism of our monopolists.
—Madison, Wis., Capital-Times.

With the growing army of unemployed, there would seem to be little reason why it should be necessary for any workers to work longer hours while other workers have no jobs.
—Edward Corsi, New York Industrial Commissioner.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—One of the excellent but little recognized jobs done during the war is that of the U. S. employment service. With labor tighter than ever before, U. S. E. S. did a magnificent job of steering men to war work.

Now, however, 48 state bosses are licking their chops, demanding that U. S. E. S. come back to the states. This means 20,000 lush jobs under state control, plus 1,500 employment offices. It also means a lot of patronage and influence for the state boodle boys.

What the state boodle boys don't realize, however, is that employment problems don't stop at state lines. They are national. And very soon this country will be facing severe nation-wide unemployment. The U. S. employment service, for instance, has been working closely with the veteran's administration in getting jobs for veterans. But if U. S. E. S. goes back to state control, that cooperation will be difficult.

Capital Chaff

Senator Kenneth Wherry whom the people of Nebraska elected as a substitute for George Norris, was hopping mad when no one voted with him against confirmation of Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson. In fact he was so mad he threatened to resign as republican whip, but changed his mind.

Though Mayor Ed Kelly of Chicago was one of Truman's stalwarts at the democratic convention, he helped inspire Truman's first defeat in the U. S. senate—the negative committee vote on ex-Congressman Ray McKeough to the maritime commission. Kelly and his pals on the Chicago Tribune stirred up AFL opposition to McKeough because he worked for the CIO. Later, however, the Illinois Federation of Labor (AFL) gave the Tribune the lie by okaying McKeough without a dissepting vote . . . Phil Murray and Sidney Hillman, two topmost CIO leaders, are so bitter they scarcely speak to each other.

A lot of back-stage argument has been taking place regarding future disposition of the many valuable German documents. Some of these may have military value and should remain secret for a while. On the other hand, many important German files pertain to economic and social matters of tremendous interest to the American public, which may help to prevent another war.

One such document pertaining to cooperation between Standard Oil of New Jersey and I. G. Farben, the German cartel, recently was found in Germany.

The document has been in the hands of foreign economic official William Stone, who has refused all efforts made by newspapermen to have the document made public.

The document indicates American businessmen aided Germany's preparation for war. It will be recalled the justice department brought an anti-trust action against Standard Oil of New Jersey for making a deal with I. G. Farben before Pearl Harbor to keep synthetic rubber patents away from the American public.

After the justice department brought its action, Standard Oil took full-page ads in American newspapers defending the cartel agreement with the German firm, and claiming Standard Oil got more out of the deal than did the nazis.

When the Germans read this statement, I. G. Farben officials moved to refute Standard's claim. I. G. Farben's arguments were written down in a confidential memo signed by top chemist Goldberg, with doctors Pier and Zorn concurring. The document was discovered by Aaron L. Tietlbaum and Eric L. Meyer of the U. S. army.

Commenting on the claims of Robert Haslam, Standard Oil's top chemist, the United States got more than Germany from the secret contract, the I. G. Farben documents states when it came to synthetic rubber, the Americans did not "receive anything important to war economy."

Battle of the Press

Harry Truman's hospitality nearly precipitated a newspaper civil war when he visited Independence last month. Mayor Roger T. Sermon gave his usual stag poker party of old friends for the president, and Truman invited two newspaper men, Merriman Smith of the United Press and Ernest Vaccaro of the Associated Press. They, together with Bob Nixon of the International News service (but who did not take the Independence trip) have traveled with Truman for about 20,000 miles, so he invited them to come to the party as off-the-record guests . . . Other newsmen were not invited. When Smith and Vaccaro returned, their colleagues asked where they had been. "Out with some girls," they replied, trying to protect Truman . . . Later, when the uninvited newsmen discovered where the AP and UP correspondents actually were, they nearly disrupted a party given by Editor Roy Roberts of the Kansas City Star.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

"Marriage is more dangerous than nitroglycerine," says a 90-year-old bachelor explosive expert.

The world lost a potentially fine husband in that gentleman who chose to live alone for 90 years because he figured women were more dangerous than TNT.

If he had just taken that keen bit of perception into matrimony—he would have gotten along just dandy. All he would have needed to do to have a happy marriage was to handle the little woman with as much respectful caution as he uses in handling high explosives.

The trouble with most husbands is they don't know that women take careful handling. And so their own carelessness is forever getting them into trouble.

You can handle high explosives if you know their nature—and never take any chance with them.

And a man could live peacefully with almost any woman for a lifetime if he put his mind to understanding her—and never permitted himself to become careless enough to do the things common sense would tell him he couldn't get by with doing.

No, the man who realizes that women are dangerous if not handled cautiously isn't the man who should avoid matrimony.

The man who would be happier a bachelor is the man who thinks that women can be treated any old way—once the days of courtship are over—and lives to discover how wrong he is.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—With all this talk flying around about $25 for 26 weeks of no work, 52 hours' pay for 40 hours' work, tax cuts, rollbacks, carryovers, refunds, and heaven knows what other new economic theories, you still haven't heard anything yet unless you now about the "Morrow plan."

Its slogan is, "Retire at Birth."
Its sub-slogan is, "Work for luxury."
Sounds good? Read on.

The Morrow plan was first cooked up as a gag back at the end of the 1930s when the "Ham and Eggs," and "Thirty Dollars Every Thursday' movements were sweeping the country. In those days when Father Coughlin, Doc Townsend, Gerald L. K. Smith or any other addelpated theorist with a cure for the depression could get an audience, a couple of Columbus, O., newspaper men woke up to the fact that unless something drastic was done pretty quickly ,the Ham and Eggers stood a good chance of carrying the state in the 1940 elections.

Since nobody wanted to listen to reason and common sense, these newspaper men decided the best way to lick the crackbrained theories was to reduce them to absurdity and laugh them to death. So they dreamed up this plan to end all plans. They called it the Morrow plan because the man who thought it up was named Walt Morrow. Since those carefree days, this Morrow has become a conservative business representative in Washington and he says today the Morrow plan of half a dozen years ago couldn't begin to compete with some of the economic theories being concocted to cure postwar depression ills.

Anyway, first step in the dizzy conception of the original Morrow plan was to incorporate the United States of America and run it as one big business, with all the citizens being entitled to share in the profits. Every citizen, at birth, would automatically become a bond-holder in the corporation and would be issued, free, $50,000 worth of non-transferrable bonds which would be cancelled at death. During life, however, the income from these bonds, at a conservative five percent interest, would yield $2,500 income a year.

This interest money would be paid in a kind of script which would be good to purchase the necessities of life—food, rent and clothing and doctor bills—but nothing more. If you wanted to buy an automobile or have a better house than your neighbor, or a piano, you couldn't by it with this funny money at all. But if you didn't want any of these extras and were content to live off the $2,500 okay, you could do it. Hence the slogan, "Retire at Birth."

Ambitious people, the folks who wanted the luxuries of life, would still be permitted to work for them in the old fashioned way, if they chose to go to that trouble.

After Morrow had thought up this dizzy scheme he decided to try it out. With his associate, Parker LaMoore, who is now about to be discharged from the army as a lieutenant colonel, Morrow set out in an auto to see how the idea would sell. They would drive up to any small group and park. LaMoore would get out and say, "Do you know who that is in the car? That's Morrow, founder of the Morrow plan. Get him to tell you about it."

When the group gathered around, Morrow would go into his act, embellishing it with a lot of big round numbers about the wealth of America being six trillion dollars and the national income 100 billion, and every man's share beng $50,000. When he had finished he would ask, "How does it sound to you?"

And then, to the absolute amazement of both Morrow and LaMoore, instead of saying, "You're crazy," their listeners would invariably say, "It sounds all right!"

To make sure their listeners weren't merely being polite, Morrow used to put the touch to them. Would they give 50 cents a week to support the "Morrow Retire at Birth Plan"—just to help get it started? Sure they would. For as long as he liked.

That cured Morrow and LaMoore of trying to out-screwball the screwballs. The Morrow plan was allowed to die. It is revived here now only to help explain why some of the slogans now being carried in placards in parades and picket lines have so many willing followers.

Side Glances

"We'll be having important sales conventions some of these days, and I'm all rusty on 'Sweet Adeline'!"

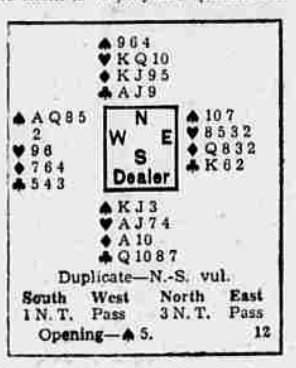
● McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. McKENNEY — America's Card Authority

QUEEN OVER JACK IS GOOD STRATEGY

Beginners at bridge often ask, "How do you know which way to take a finesse when there is the choice of taking it either way?"

One principle I always pass on to them is to play the queen over the jack when all other things are equal; that is, if it does not make any difference which opponent gets the lead, and if the bidding fails to give an indication of the situation. In playing the queen over the jack you will be right at least 50 per cent of the time; if you try to guess every time, you may be wrong more often than right.



Duplicate—N.-S. vul.

South	West	North	East
1 N.T.	Pass	3 N.T.	Pass

Opening—♠ 5. 12

In today's hand several players in a duplicate game complained of hard luck when, after winning the first trick with the jack of spades, they took the club finesse and lost to East's king. The player who won top score on the board led a small heart at trick two, won with the king in dummy and returned a diamond, finessing the ten-spot.

South did not particularly care whether the ten-spot was won or lost. If West won with the queen, regardless of what he returned, declarer could cash one spade, four hearts, three diamonds and the ace of clubs. In this case the ten-spot held, but it gave declarer the same number of tricks.

● BARBS

By HAL COCHRAN

Honestly, the best policy is to let all's well that ends well enongh alone.

Reports indicate that there will be plenty of tame turkeys this coming holiday season—with the same old wild price tags!

An opera singer says women should learn to sing at home. It

would be a perfect reason for hubby to take a night out now and then.

It probably would clear up the paper shortage if Uncle Sam had all of that on which people intended to write to the boys in service, but didn't.

● IN FORMER YEARS

Thirty Years Ago

With enrollment figures for the first month of the school year completed, City Superintendent John Girdler today learned that the attendance in school today, at the end of the first month, is identical with a year ago. Enrollment in all schools is 1282, high school is 242.

L. P. Ostlund left yesterday for his mining property in the Sumpter district where he will remain during the winter driving new tunnels and otherwise making improvements preparatory to opening one of the finest veins of ore that the Sumpter district possesses.

Fifteen Years Ago

Over 2,500 people attended the opening night of the Grange Fair and Home Products show which is being held yesterday and today at the Sacajawea Inn under the auspices of the Union county grangers and Union county chamber of commerce.

State Senator Edward F. Bailey democratic candidate for governor, and Elton Watkins, democratic candidate for United States senator, will deliver public addresses Oct. 13 at 8:30 p.m. in the city hall, it was anounced today.

Ten Years Ago

The new reinforced concrete bridge spanning the Grande Ronde river at the east portal of Elgin has been opened to traffic. The detour sign that has routed thousands of travelers away from the main highway at the corner of B street, was removed for the first time since construction work on the bridge was started last March.

This Curious World

NEXT: Those meteor showers we'll see next month.