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CHARLES V. STANTON Editor EDWIN L. KNAPP Manager

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A UNIQUE ACHIEVEMENT

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Widespread acclaim has greeted the North Douglas Living Memorial dedicated Sunday at Drain. Oregon newspapers have been profuse in their praise of the civic spirit which inspired North Douglas residents to plan and build their memorial without outside aid of any kind. The admiration expressed for the project sponsors and their enterprise leads to hope that our traditional self-reliance is not entirely dead, despite years of indoctrination in federal paternalism.

Drain's Living Memorial is unique in the fact that it involves no subsidy. It was built through a program of old-fashioned community cooperation. The appreciation and respect expressed in the Oregon press refer more to the fact that this project was carried to successful termination exclusively by self-help rather than to the purely physical characteristics of the installations, for swimming pools, parks, athletic fields and playgrounds are common. But rare indeed are these adjuncts to pleasant living in communities as small as the North Douglas district and still more uncommon is an installation containing all these facilities in one unit built entirely by local public contributions of money, materials and labor.

The North Douglas Living Memorial is more than a tribute to the war dead, more than a recreational unit, more than a civic improvement. It is a beacon pointing out the rugged path of personal independence—a path once well worn but now sadly forsaken for the broad, easy highway of paternalism.

There was a time when the average American felt it a disgrace to accept help. Receipt of material assistance imposed an obligation to reciprocate in kind. Charity was to be accepted only under the most extreme circumstances.

Those were days when a man was secure in his possessions. Doors seldom were locked. Articles of value might be left in the open with complete confidence that they would remain unmolested.

But we have experienced deterioration of moral fiber. Charity now is to be sought rather than avoided. Too many people hold to the theory that the world owes them a living. The dignity of labor has degenerated. Too few laborers think in terms of an honest day's work; too few employers practice honest pay and honest profits. Possession of property is insecure. Anything of value must be placed behind lock and key. We seek and scheme for handouts, for subsidies, for unearned subsistence, for relief.

We recall in the early days of the last depression how a man walked a round trip of 20 miles daily to dig potatoes to feed his family, returning at night carrying the burden of his labor upon his back. Then he was but an average American. Today he would be called a fool by many people.

Abraham Lincoln once said:

While the people retain their virtue and vigilance, no administration, by any extreme of wickedness or folly, can very seriously injure the government in the short space of four years.

It may not be possible to injure government in four years, but sixteen years of federal paternalism have caused material damage to free enterprise and rugged individualism. Acceptance of subsidy leads to slavery. A servile electorate, lulled into lethargy by a sense of conferred security, quickly loses self-reliance, while virility of government suffers. Moral consciousness deteriorates with loss of self esteem. Respect for property, personal integrity, the dignity of labor lose their meaning as moral fiber softens.

In these days when so many people seek the soft, easy, broad highway falsely marked with signboards of social gain, it is a significant and pleasurable experience to find a community of self-reliant people, willing and able to achieve a unique and outstanding objective exclusively by their own cooperative effort.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

THE ROAD TO PROGRESS

(The East Oregonian)

The report of the Eastern Oregon Sportsmen's council, made public during the weekend at La Grande by President Fred Langer, revealed that the state game commission at its July meeting largely followed recommendations of the council in preparing its regulations for the 1948 hunting seasons.

The council, it should be explained, is made up of representatives from sportsmen's organizations of Umatilla, Union, Walla, Baker and Malheur counties, and is in no sense merely a La Grande group. It seeks to represent the entire five-county area, and its recommendations are the result of combined recommendations from the sportsmen of each of the five counties, but submitted to the commission in consolidated form.

In recent years this method has been followed in this section of the state and the response on the part of the commission has been encouraging. Actually, the commission is extremely pleased at such a plan also, since it does away with longer meetings, filled with duplicated arguments, etc., with no more—or perhaps not nearly so much—gained either by sportsmen or commission in the long run.

As was to be expected, the

commission did not OK all recommendations made, but it went quite a way in fact in that direction. It is doubtful if as much recognition would have been given this area if each county had had a representative before the game commission pleading their own cases in the usual strenuous fashion. None of the pleadings would have carried as much weight as the consolidated list of recommendations, with the game commission aware of the fact this list was supported by several thousand sportsmen.

In unity there is strength, and that is the real reason why the Eastern Oregon Sportsmen's council, of which Langer is president and Harold McKee, Pendleton, is vice-president, is making such progress toward better hunting conditions. When we get together, we always accomplish a great deal more.

Funeral Services Held For Eldon LaChance

Graveside services with military honors and the committal service for Eldon Thomas LaChance, 23, who died July 22, were held this afternoon in the Labodere Cemetery at Days Creek under the auspices of the American Legion of Canyonville. Rev. Levi White, pastor of the Days Creek Community Church officiated in place of Father Sebastian Ward, as originally planned. Arrangements were in charge of the Roseburg Funeral Home.

The tuna fish has been timed by scientists at a speed of 44 miles an hour.

OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



About twenty years ago when our boys were in first grade I learned a lesson that served me well all through their schooling. I was always so grateful to their teacher, Hazel Engeseth, for giving me a thought that freed me from the tense anxiety with which so many mothers suffer when children are "on the program."

The teacher had accepted the first of many such invitations and the children had arrived after their "walk to Ernest and Seeley's house," to see whatever was currently to be seen at the moment—Snowball and Susan, the two big white rabbits.

Snowball and Susan lived in a two-story affair, shingle-roofed, with a porch in everything, including stairs. If you please, to the upper regions where the rabbits solemnly slept every night until—

One day they began madly digging in the green lawn. It was inside their fence because Daddy, after retrieving said rabbits from various points in the neighborhood, had made the wire fencing "rabbit-proof."

After a bit the rabbits disap-

peared but the dirt flew up out of the holes. The urge to burrow hit them both at the same time. Then the rabbit house was vacant for a while, with only a glimpse now and then of the rabbits top-side.

Came the day when Susan appeared with nine miniature bunnies, and Snowball had ten! First Grade was in a dither and came to see. Since I considered Ernest and Seeley were hosts to the other children I began to direct their actions:

"Please," said their teacher, with a smile but a firm emphasis, "don't correct my children! I don't like to have mothers do that when my children are visiting."

When I had recovered from my surprise I realized I had received a most helpful thought from a very wise teacher. Never again did I feel I was watching "my children" perform, or fall in performance if they forgot a line, and oh, the pleasure the programs were to me from then on. I sat there carefree and happy and amused watching the teacher's children, not "mine" during school programs!

Marshall Plan Already Shows Good Results in Combatting Red Drive

By DEWITT MacKENZIE
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

The cold war between Soviet Russia and the democracies had its genesis in ideology—aggressive Communism bent on world conquest—but its outcome is going to be determined by economic factors.

Of course military power will play an important part, but that is based on economic well-being. As for ideology, man is given to thinking with his stomach. His ideological leanings are likely to be decisively influenced by the amount of food (plus a corresponding allotment of other necessities) available for his family.

That is the significance of the Marshall plan, and it dominates the whole crisis. The task of the democracies is to hold the present "military front" through central Europe to give the Marshall plan time to put western Europe on its feet economically.

Actually the three major democracies in Germany—America, Britain and France—haven't anything like as great military strength in the field as has Russia. However, the potential striking power which the democracies could develop is greater than that which the Soviet could produce in the same length of time. So we have a "cold" war instead of a "hot" one.

Allies Must Hold Line
The task of the democracies, therefore, is to hold along the so-called Sietlin-Adriatic "battle line" across Europe while the Marshall plan does its job. That will restore the ability of the democracies to provide themselves with the military power for defense against armed aggression. America plans on performing this task in four years so that she can withdraw from Europe by 1952. She figures that by then not only will the European democracies be well on their way to normalcy but that this increasing prosperity will have its reflection in a great improvement in Uncle Sam's foreign trade and cost of living.

There are many obstacles to be overcome. Among these is the very natural fear in Paris that the rebirth of a strong Germany will again endanger France. One can have a sympathetic understanding of that feeling, since Germany made war three times on France in a little more than two generations.

Another snag has been struck in western Germany itself. The German leaders dislike the American-British-French idea of forming a government for the three zones occupied by America, Comedy of No Manners.

George B. Shaw, At 92, Still Has Scorn of Birthday

AYOT ST. LAWRENCE, England, July 26. —(AP)—George Bernard Shaw turned 92 today, determined to round out a full century of life. The bite of his wit and wisdom are as potent as ever.

The bearded sage's scorn of birthdays—especially his own—has for years imposed a hush upon his household when this important day comes around, and consequently observance of the anniversary is a subdued affair—insofar as Shaw can manage it.

He has a word for such celebrations — "rubbish." When he wants to save a syllable he explodes: "bah."

Still, telegrams and telephone calls pour in. There are personal visits, gifts to be acknowledged, persons seeking interviews. Mostly GBS passes the buck on these things to his stern secretary and the adroit Dr. F. E. Loewenstein, Shaw's "official biographer and remembrancer." Able interceptors also are the Winstons—Stephen and Clara, writer and sculptor—who live next door and are among Shaw's oldest and closest friends.

Shaw's general health is said to be better than it was a year ago.

Good gives the credit for his good health to his vegetarian diet, the fact he is a teetotaler and to his extremely careful rules for living.

He describes his recreation now as "being ninety," and adds that he intends to enjoy it for a long while. In the past year he has completed a play, "Buoyant Billions," subtitled by GBS: "A three zones occupied by America, Comedy of No Manners."

Military Rites Will be Accorded Sgt. S. A. Stidham

The remains of the late Staff Sergeant Scott A. Stidham will arrive in Roseburg Tuesday evening, accompanied by military escort, and will be met by members of American Legion Umpqua Post No. 46 and escorted with military honors to the Roseburg Funeral Home.

Sgt. Stidham was born May 5, 1920 at Ft. Koe, Mont. He had lived in Roseburg six years before his enlistment in August 1941. He served in the European theater in the 410th Bombardment Squadron as a ball-turret gunner on a B-17 bomber. He was killed in action in May 1943. He was a member of the De Molay.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Scott W. Stidham Sr., Melrose; two brothers, Jerry S. and William F., and a sister, Betty Lou, all of Melrose.

Memorial services will be held in the chapel of the Roseburg Funeral Home Thursday, July 29, at 2 p.m., with Dr. C. A. Edwards officiating. Interment will follow with military honors by the American Legion in the Masonic Cemetery.

James H. Adams, Pioneer, Passes

James Hamilton Adams, 81, life-long resident of the Roseburg vicinity, died Sunday evening, July 25, after a short illness. He was born Dec. 25, 1866, on Deer Creek on his father's donation land claim. His parents crossed the plains in 1839 and settled on South Deer Creek. The town of Sutherlin was named after his maternal grandparents.

Surviving are a son, James L. Adams, Dillard; a brother, George M. Adams, South Deer Creek; a sister, Mrs. Mandy A. McConnell, Roseburg, and a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held in the chapel of the Roseburg Funeral Home Wednesday, July 28, at 2 p.m. with Rev. H. P. Scone officiating. Vault interment will follow in the Civil Bend Cemetery.

Eugene-Springfield Area Mills Struck by Fires

EUGENE, Ore., July 26. —(AP)—Three fires in the Eugene-Springfield area in a brief period Satur-



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day night caused damage of more than \$100,000. The Summerbell Roof Structures plant in Springfield was destroyed at a loss of \$90,000. Two firemen were injured. Lumber piles were burned in Eugene at the Western Timber Products Corp., and the Mogan Lumber Company, Western Timber Products estimated its loss at \$25,000. Damage at the other firm was not estimated.

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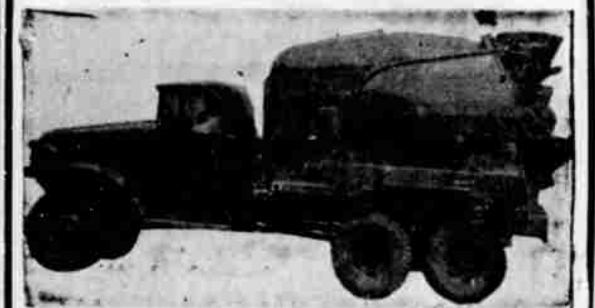
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