

# The News-Review

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## SAFEGUARDING THE PRESS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

We had a most pleasurable experience recently in attending an initiation banquet given by the U. of O. chapter, Sigma Delta Chi, national journalistic fraternity, at Eugene. The initiation ceremony was presented for a candidate class of 21 students in journalism at University of Oregon and Oregon State College, with chapter members from each school participating, together with a large representation from the professional membership.

We often become troubled in mind because of persistent efforts by subversive organizations to infiltrate the nation's press. Altogether too many writers with Communist leanings occupy prominent places in the journalistic profession.

Sigma Delta Chi is a fraternity pledged to the highest journalistic ethics. Qualifications are strict and membership is select.

It is a source of satisfaction to know that while subversive forces attempt infiltration of the press, another group of the finest men from our colleges and universities are entering the profession seriously pledged to maintain the highest possible code of ethics.

Sigma Delta Chi is not exclusively an undergraduate and campus fraternity. It is well organized in professional ranks. Professional chapters are being formed throughout the country in large numbers.

To one interested in keeping the nation's press on the traditional plane it has occupied, with fullest protection for freedom of speech and with truthful motives in dissemination of news and opinion, the growth of Sigma Delta Chi gives encouragement.

We attended the impressive ceremony at Eugene as the guest of Warren Mack.

"Mack" will be remembered by News-Review readers as a member of our news staff during the 1948 vacation season, when he was employed as sports writer and on the radio news staff. He left The News-Review last fall to resume studies at University of Oregon School of Journalism, where he is a member of the graduating class.

His friends will be glad to learn that he has high scholastic standing. Faculty members privately informed us of the excellent work he is accomplishing as a student. In addition to his course of study, he is employed with the University News Bureau, is campus correspondent for The Oregon Journal and collaborates in a weekly radio news forum. He is treasurer of the U. of O. SDX chapter. All this, together with assisting in the care of the ever-lively, six-months-old "Mack Junior," keeps him very busy.

"Mack" requested that we convey greetings to his many Roseburg friends.

One of the highlights of the initiation ceremony was the presence of Malcolm Epley, managing editor of The Herald and News, Klamath Falls, at the initiation of his son, Malcolm Epley Jr., into the fraternity. The Klamath Falls editor was proudly exhibiting a picture made at the time of his own initiation, when his Sigma Delta Chi emblem was photographed pinned upon the breast of his infant son held in the father's arms as the photo was made. News photographers covering the event had a flashlight holiday as they "shot" the father-and-son angle of the impressive ceremony.

## Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

Lucky Johnny Kraus  
Medford Mail-Tribune  
John L. Kraus Jr., rescued Tuesday from the wintry fastnesses of the upper Umpqua country, is a very, very lucky man—just how lucky, he will realize more and more as he has time to consider his recent adventure.

Lady Luck, usually a somewhat fickle jade, fairly knocked herself out in showering favor on the flier.

The first lucky break came when the frozen surface of Little Fish Lake loomed below as Kraus looked frantically for a landing place when his motor faltered.

Lucky break number two was registered when the pilot successfully negotiated a belly landing on the snow-covered ice.

A third break was the quick discovery of a forest service cabin in the lake shore, stocked with food, fuel and a warm sleeping bag.

Lady Luck gave the young man five days to meditate upon the blessings she had thus far bestowed and then, apparently tired of toying with his destiny, waved her magic wand to summon rescuers. But even at this point she apparently still had her hand on his shoulder for she guided him to his stranded plane, where he went to get some gasoline for a lamp found in the cabin, at the very moment that a plane was passing overhead.

It was at this point that Technical Sergeant Neil E. Erickson, crew chief of the passing army B-26, gave a casual glance upward and saw a peculiar looking little object on the frozen lake far below. He called it to the attention of Lt. C. J. Anderson, the pilot, who swung his plane about for another look.

Those aboard the B-26 did not know that a plane was lost in this region and only happened over Little Fish Lake because they were taking a short cut on a hop between Hamilton and McChord

Fields. Lady Luck, apparently, was still running the show.

But Lt. Anderson, after waggling his wings at the man visible below, zoomed upward and radioed word of the find to the Medford Army Communications station, thereby releasing Lady Luck and placing the matter in the capable hands of the Air Rescue Service.

Within a very short time a PRY was en route to the scene with men and supplies aboard ready to parachute to the youth's aid. And, only a few hours later Johnny Kraus, an Air Rescue Service "Paradocter" and an aide were on the way to Tiller, guided by a Forest Service ground crew which had trudged in to the lake during the night.

Few men make a forced landing in the rugged Southern Oregon mountains and live to tell about it. In this instance, however, Lady Luck, seemingly determined to atone for her past aloofness toward troubled air men, wrapped up all her favors in one package, a gift to Johnny Kraus.

UNFAIR DOUBLE TAXATION  
(Salem Capital Journal)  
The house tax committee evidently plans to boost state income taxes notwithstanding the fact that Oregon has one of the highest state income taxes of any of the states and has a surplus of some \$50 million income tax receipts that cannot be used except for designated purposes.

Representative Giles French, Moro, sponsors an income tax revision which would lower income tax rates, lower personal exemptions and remove credit now given for federal income tax payments. It is estimated that it would increase the state income tax revenues \$6 million a year.

Rep. Lytle E. Thomas, Polk, bill would only remove federal tax credit without changes in rates or exemptions and yield about \$10 million.

The French bill would cut state income taxes for those whose income is less than \$2000 a year but boost it for those above that income.

Rates on brackets of taxable income would be reduced 1 percent in each bracket to a top of 6 per-



## OUT OUR WAY



Way back in 1644 a man lost his job. Not only that, but he was never replaced. All because another man dipped his pen in fire and wrote so passionately of the necessity for freedom of the press that the Licensor of Printing was no more!

"Men are virtuous," wrote John Milton, in AREOPAGITICA, "when they reject evil from choice, not when barred from it by necessity." (Was it Voltaire who declared "I disagree with you but defend to the death your right to say it"?) "No man can refute error without publishing the error supposed to be refuted." Thus trumpeted Milton 305 years ago; the press is still zealously defending its right to be free—a recent editorial in the News-Review illustrates that the press wants the whole press to be free, not just individual publishers.

But it was of Milton I was thinking: When I gave my huge volume of "Paradise Lost" to a friend who would make good use of the very large print, I copied a few passages from the Preface: "In his (Milton's) day the Bible was regarded as a treasure which had been lost and found... it had been rescued from the

most guarded secrecy, and made to be the home possession of the people."

"Great was the value attached to it; simple, earnest and unshaken was the faith reposed in it. Statesmen, soldiers, scholars, patriots knelt before this oracle in the spirit of little children. Its utterances were to them unerring, authoritative, final. From the Bible his (Milton's) spirit received a divine baptism, a baptism renewed and deepened day by day."

I remember seeing in old churches in England pulpits with chains that had once been used to guard the Book in its place. How casually we have and use clear type, beautifully printed Bibles, keeping them at hand instead of depending only upon another's reading. What a precious gift is the freedom which permits, encourages education, the reading of books which open doors once locked by tyranny, despotism and ignorance. And in this world that whirls how steady and comforting to be sure that "the Word of God is quick and powerful," quicker than sound, or even light; more powerful than atomic energy.

## Drawings For 86 Farm Units At Tulelake Scheduled for Feb. 23

TULELAKE, Calif., Feb. 11.—One hundred years ago in 1849 the cry of "Gold in California" brought thousands of Argonauts rushing to the west in search of the precious metal.

Today, in 1949 a new kind of gold rush will descend on Tulelake, Calif., the "gold" being the modern gold rush in occupation of the Bureau of Reclamation's opening to homestead 86 rich farm units located near this far northern California city. The farms range in value from \$20,000 to \$40,000 and are given free to lucky applicants who meet the requirements and whose names will be drawn from a pickle jar

at the American Legion hall in Tulelake on Feb. 23.

Over 5000 applications have been received for a chance at the land from all over the United States. The winners will be more richly rewarded than the gold seekers of '49 for each year they will reap a golden harvest from the fertile soil. Barley, potatoes, sugar beets and clover can be grown on the land which until a few years ago was lake bottom. The government has drained part of Tule Lake and has been leasing the land to be homesteaded. Crops have been excellent and will continue to be richly rewarding to the lucky homestead winners.

cent on taxable income of over \$4000. The present top is 8 percent on all income over \$8000. The graduations would be as follows:

Personal exemptions would be lowered from the present \$750 for single persons to \$600 and from the present \$1500 for the head of a family to \$1200. The \$300 exemption for dependents would be unchanged. On the basis of the 1947 income the French bill would produce \$35 million a year, it is estimated.

The proposal to remove the credit for federal income taxes paid is unfair in every way and will do more to drive capital away from Oregon than any proposal yet made. It is the old idea of soaking industry and the employer. Payment of the excessive federal income tax is compulsory and a legitimate expense to be charged off state income taxes. Even the federal government exempts payments of state income taxes. It is double taxation of the rawest type and will be defeated by referendum if adopted, by those who believe in fair play and want to encourage development and not penalize it.

TEMPTING SOURCE OF FUNDS  
(The Astorian Budget)

It is not surprising that legislators at Salem, puzzled by their tremendous financial problem, look longingly at slot machines and consider licensing them as a source of needed dollars.

This consideration of slot machine licenses again emphasizes Oregon's inconsistency with regard to gambling.

We have set a precedent for legalizing gambling by setting up horse and dog race pari-mutuel betting and making the state a

## In the Day's News

By J. R. Williams

### (Continued from Page One)

convictions lead people to oppose Communist skulduggery.

That's about the long and short of it.

ONE of Bulgaria's big shot communists asserts that the indicted churchmen have already "fully confessed" to the treason charges. In Hungary, Cardinal Mindszenty "fully confessed" to the charges against him. If you read the whole nasty business carefully, you must have been puzzled, disgusted and maybe a little frightened by his "confession." You must have known in your own heart that something was terribly, tragically rotten about it.

HERE is a thought for you:

If Communism in Hungary and Bulgaria can find ways to make its opponents confess to any crime it wants to convict them of, Communism could find ways to MAKE YOU CONFESS TO ANY CRIME IT WANTED TO CONVICT YOU OF if it got into the saddle in this country.

Keep that in mind every time you hear some pink trying to make somebody believe Communism is a "liberal" movement.

IN Iowa City, where the University of Iowa is sponsoring a conference on opinion research, Archibald Crossley, one of our three best-known opinion pollsters, expresses flat doubt as to whether pollsters are justified in forecasting election results.

THAT is to say:

Is it a good thing or isn't it a good thing for us to KNOW IN ADVANCE (or to think we know) the result of an election?

Among other things, knowing the result in advance (or thinking we know it) tends to TAKE THE FUN OUT OF ELECTIONS. This writer has a notion that if we take the fun out of American elections we will have done something quite undesirable to the American system of government and the American way of life.

Why do you read the weather forecast for tomorrow?

Maybe you have some faint confidence that it might be right. But mainly you take it as a sporting proposition. You like to kid the weather man when he is wrong—as he very often is.

Wouldn't you miss the weather reports if we didn't print them?

OVER the country, an amazing number of editors have been HUMILIATED because the pollster guesses they printed turned out to be wrong. Some of these editors beat their foreheads in the dirt and wear sackcloth and ashes because they failed to GUESS RIGHT.

This writer regards that as rank tommyrot. Predicting what is GOING TO HAPPEN is not part of the newspaper's business—which is to tell what HAS HAPPENED. Whenever a newspaper takes crystal-balling the future SERIOUSLY it is off on the wrong track.

If it wants to print forecasts as a sporting proposition, that is another matter.

A Norman ancestor of George Washington in 1183 became lord of the manor and village of West-oxton (or Waddington) and took the name of the estate for his family name.

## Western Germany on Road to Recovery Under Allies' Plan, U. S. General Clay Declares

BERLIN, Feb. 14.—(AP)—General Lucius D. Clay, reviewing the past year in Western Germany, said general recovery has been so good it has instilled a "real hope for the future" in the German people.

The biggest single danger from now on, he said, will be inflation. But, he added, adequate controls are believed to have been established.

The American military governor said the standard of living of the 40,000,000 persons living in Western Germany has been raised so that they now have enough to eat.

He recounted the finish of the denazification program and predicted it will prevent the "really bad" Nazis from coming back to power.

He said also that trade unions have been put back on their feet and the U. S.-licensed newspapers have established themselves solidly.

The report, combined with a monthly review of occupation activities, warned, however, that some former Nazi publishers and other nationalistic elements are plotting to regain control of German newspapers.

Clay said the military government will crack down on any such attempt.

The denazification program, Clay said, "was one of the greatest programs of its type carried out in the world."

"Many people say it was a failure," he added. "I think history will prove that letting the Germans handle this affair themselves will carry with it very far-reaching effects and that we may count on the denazification measures to keep out of office for a long time the really bad Nazis so that other leadership can develop and that if the Nazis try to come back it will be too late."

Clay said "The greatest compliment perhaps that has been offered to us as to our success in rebuilding the trade unions is the freedom and courage with which they attack us."

The U. S.-licensed press, Clay

## Eagles Lodge At Coos Bay Loses Funds to Robbers

COOS BAY, Ore., Feb. 11.—(AP)—Two unmasked robbers made off at gunpoint with an estimated \$1043 from the Eagles Lodge early yesterday.

State police immediately established road blocks.

Hal "Doc" Leazengy, bartender at the lodge, told this story:

He was closing for the night, after the final customer had left, when two strangers came in.

"I'm sorry, boys, I've just closed up," he said.

The taller of the two men pulled an automatic pistol from his black leather jacket and said, "This is it."

The smaller man then opened the unlocked safe, grabbed money sacks, and the other took the locked till box from the bar. The two then walked out.

Leazengy said he looked out and saw a car going south with one man jumping into the moving vehicle.

The money, he said, included \$600 in two till boxes, \$286 in lodge funds and the rest miscellaneous funds belonging to the Junior Drum Corps and Lodge Auxiliary.

## Aerial Photos of Oregon Terrain to Be Available

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Air force aerial photographs of Oregon terrain are to be made available to county and state officers.

Rep. Norblad (R-Ore.) reported that Secretary of Defense Forrestal has approved turning over the photographs to the Department of Agriculture for sale to the officials.

Norblad recently complained to the secretary that the air force had discontinued selling the photographs. They are needed, the congressman said, in making assessments on timber tracts and in determining the need for soil erosion work.

## GOOD AS HER WORD

NEW YORK.—(AP)—Lillian Wolfe, manager and co-owner of a Brooklyn haven, joined in a discussion of crime with two men customers. Said she:

"If the place were held up, I'd hand over every cent."

Thereupon, one of the men produced a gun and demanded cash. Miss Wolfe handed over a box containing \$800, police said. The two men escaped.

## PIANOS

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