

The News-Review

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JAMES FORRESTAL, HERO

War leaves a tragic wake. Crippled bodies, warped minds, exhausted nerves fill hospitals, convalescent homes and domiciliary facilities with men who require treatment and care over long periods of time before they can return to normal life. Many will never recover completely and some must forever remain wards of a grateful government.

That this tragedy of war is not confined alone to the men who faced an enemy in armed battle, but may claim for its victims those who fought on the home front, is proven by the death of James V. Forrestal, the nation's first secretary of defense, who took his own life Sunday in a 16-story leap from the Naval hospital where he was receiving treatment following a collapse from nervous exhaustion. His condition was brought about through patriotic devotion to duty; the strain of overwork and responsibility that continued beyond the limits of human endurance.

Forrestal had no reason to give so much of himself to his country's service other than the impelling drive from his own conscience. He had ample wealth to permit a life of ease and comfort. He left an important civilian position to accept at much lower pay a post in government service. His ability, demonstrated in an assistant's office during the war, made him an outstanding choice as the country's first defense secretary under the program for unification of the armed services. Undoubtedly petty quarrels between the services and their "brass" in resisting unification contributed much to the overwork and strain which finally brought about the collapse of a strong body and brilliant mind.

Perhaps Forrestal's martyrdom for the cause of unification will break down some of the spit-and-polish, school-tie obstacles thrown in the path of the plan for consolidating military services.

Forrestal's name should be placed high on the list of men who bravely sacrificed their lives for their country.

Thanks From The News-Review
 The News-Review has had phenomenal growth during the past few years, after clearing bottlenecks of labor shortage, newsprint shortage, insufficient and inadequate equipment, etc. It has been a hard and sometimes discouraging battle to develop the paper to its present size and appearance. Too, it has been very costly. But there have been many compensations, although dollar profits have been slim because of heavy investments.

One of the pleasing compensations is found in public reception and response. The News-Review has consistently been leading the field in display advertising gains. For the month of April, The News-Review led all newspapers in Oregon in the rate of total advertising gain. April was not a precedent, for time and again The News-Review has been out in front. In fact, it has almost become a habit.

Naturally, we are very proud of this position. We would not be enjoying the patronage of our advertisers and outstripping all other Oregon publications in rate of gain if our service were not proving its worth. The advertiser, obviously, can measure the worthwhile results of his advertising, but The News-Review has ample proof of its value as an advertising medium through its consistent and continuous circulation gains.

We have put little emphasis on building circulation. The News-Review has staged no drives, has had no salesmen in the field, other than its Little Merchant carriers and the regular members of the circulation staff, and has offered no premiums or cut rates.

We have not permitted high pressure salesmanship. Yet, without sales effort outside the ordinary, our family of readers continues to grow steadily. Circulation is pressing 8,000, considerably more than double that of a few years ago when the expansion program started.

We wish we had words to express our gratitude to the thousands who have taken The News-Review into their homes. We know The News-Review is not a perfect newspaper. We have ample room for improvement and are constantly striving for betterment. While we know full well many of our faults, and will strive to correct them as we gain further facilities, we hope our readers will never hesitate to give us their criticism and counsel.

Our appreciation for cooperation from our advertisers is beyond our power of expression. We endeavor to maintain an efficient and hard-working staff to aid advertising patrons, but they could accomplish little if they lacked an exceptional spirit of cooperation from users of advertising space.

Unable to find better words to express our feelings toward readers and advertisers, we can only offer a great big "THANK YOU."

West Coast Airlines Report Shows Profit

SEATTLE, May 24.—(AP)—West Coast Airlines has reported a net profit of \$23,500 for 1948, its first year of full operation from Bellingham, Wash., to Medford, Ore. Re-election of the board of directors was announced Saturday. The board includes Chef Gundersen of Portland; E. K. Bishop, Aberdeen; Nick Bez, H. A. Hunter, W. A. Castleton, George Gunn, D. K. McDonald and William Calvert, of Seattle.

'Scientist X' Slated For Congress Probe

WASHINGTON, May 24.—(AP)—The mysterious "Scientist X," accused last year of giving atomic secrets to a Communist organizer, was reported today to be a supervisor of students holding atomic energy study fellowships. Sources close to congressional spy-hunting activities said they understood that is his present position.

These sources said "Scientist X" and several other supervisors will be called before a House subcommittee soon. "Scientist X" never has been identified, though he has figured in House Un-American Activities Committee investigations for several months. He is said to have worked at the radiation laboratories at Berkeley, Calif., during the war on atomic energy development. There are over 8000 weekly newspapers now being published in the United States, according to a survey conducted early in 1949.

The Answer Is Still No!



Scraping from the MENDING BASKET
 By Viahnett S. Martin

Flight 179 out of San Francisco for Portland, was not without incident—at least for Mrs. Algonon Bitwuns. The weather had nothing to do with it, for all there was a 600-foot ceiling, rain, and a 50-mile tailwind. To be sure, Mrs. B. who had not thought to look at the schedule for her return trip, was surprised when they landed almost at once at Oakland; for a moment she even thought it an emergency landing! She was more surprised when she learned they were heading for Klamath Falls. She had gone down via Medford and Eureka. That was why she had urged Mr. Bitwuns to be sure and meet her in Medford so they would finish the trip together!

There were only four passengers: the man who sat by himself in the front seat, and the three in the center who chatted about this and that. When the stewardess had time, she joined them. They seemed to find it very funny that Mr. Bitwuns might be waiting at Medford for a plane that wouldn't be even visible from there... finally even Mrs.

B laughed. (She hoped Agie would!) When Flight Captain McKelvey came through he was sure "the agent at Eugene would stop Mr. Bitwuns; he'd be sure to mention meeting flight 179." Then he pointed out Mt. Shasta. The pretty college student (who could see Mt. Shasta from her living room windows in Klamath Falls,) exclaimed: "Why, Mt. Shasta was never on that side of the plane before." The others thought that was funny, because Mt. Shasta looked anything but temperamental.

In due time, Klamath Falls and the pretty student were left behind, and they passed Mt. McLaughlin: "Looks just like Fujlyama!" said Captain McKelvey. The sun was shining everywhere now, this being Oregon; the pouring rain had been left behind in California, where the weather had been "most unusual" all during Mrs. B's visit there.

When the plane set down there was Mr. Bitwuns behind the barrier. He, it happened, had looked at Mrs. B's schedule and decided to meet her where he would be sure to find her: Eugene!

LETTERS to the Editor

Roseburg Fire Chief Has No Desire To Retire

ROSEBURG.—During the past few weeks I have had so many people ask me, "How come you are quitting the fire department?" that I think it only fair to the public that I advise of the facts. On Feb. 15, the city manager wrote a letter to the Volunteer Fire Department stating that I would be required to retire as of May 31, 1949, at about \$45 per month, because of the fact that I would attain the age of 60 years on May 18. The public employees retirement act also provides that firemen and police may be retained on a yearly basis after they reach the 60-year retirement age, which has been done in many cases throughout the state and is being done here in Roseburg at the County Courthouse.

It is not my desire to retire and I am sure it is not the wishes of the taxpayers, businessmen and residents of this city that I receive this sort of treatment after spending a lifetime for the betterment of the fire department—37 years to be exact. I regret very much having been placed in this position but assure you that it has been through no fault of mine, as I have actually devoted 16 to 18 hours a day to my work since becoming a city employee Jan. 1, 1933, and prior to that having served 20 years as a volunteer.

GLENN H. TAYLOR,
 City Fire Chief,
 Roseburg, Ore.

Objections Registered To World Calendar Plan

ROSEBURG.—Exception is hereby taken to the proposed "World Calendar" described under by-line of Jane Eads in Thursday's paper. Far from being the panacea for business, education, sports and the like, this new calendar being sponsored by the World Calendar Association will create dissensions cutting deep into the moral and religious fiber of every conscientious Christian home.

This World Calendar, along with its very fine objective of equal months and quarters, proposes the addition of an "eighth" or "blank" day at the end of the 52nd week of every year and of the 26th week in leap years. Of course, fancy names are given to these extra days, termed holidays, but which still must be accounted for by every utility, every milk distributor, every farmer, every railroad handling perishables, every policeman, fireman, bus driver, hotel clerk, and so on almost without number. It is readily to be seen by thinking people that ALL business just can't be shut down for one day and not make some accounting for it in payroll and production records, etc.

Worse than this, this "eighth" day interposed at the end of each year will disrupt the continuity of the traditional seven-day weekly cycle observed by Catholics, Protestants and Jews for millenniums.

To establish such an invasion into the religious rights of any minority by law is a violation of our concept of freedom of religion, for which a war was just fought. It is contrary to the spirit of our Constitution.

From my many years of study of this and other calendar revision plans, I urge each reader of this letter to protest strongly to his congressman the passage of any such threat to religious harmony in America.

E. F. NORTHROP,
 946 Military St.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

jury. If the jury system breaks down (for any reason) our whole modern political structure will go to pieces with immense loss to everybody.

But motherhood is also a public duty. If mothers train their children right, courts and juries will have far less to do. A mother who raises three children right is doing her duty to the public.

This is a good place to observe that we have some strange ideas as to public service. Included among them is the more or less prevailing fee of \$3 a day for jury duty.

It doesn't appear reasonable that the founders of our system had the idea that jury duty should be poorly paid, because in those now far-off times \$3 a day wasn't had compensation. The oddity arises out of the fact that while salaries of other servants of the public have risen somewhat in proportion to other increases, the \$3-a-day jury has survived to a surprising extent.

There must be a reason. It can't be simply because we regard service on a jury as WORTH no more than three dollars per diem. No one could be so utterly dumb as to think that.

It must be because we have the instinctive feeling that jury service is so IMPORTANT that good citizens should be willing to make sacrifices in order to perform it when they are called. Certainly nothing is more contemptible than the spectacle of a supposedly good citizen trying to wriggle out of jury duty for no better reason than that he wants to devote all his time to his OWN business instead of giving up a

Three Roseburg Students Awarded Scholarships

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, May 24.—(Special)—Betty Hunter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred B. Hunter, Roseburg, and a junior in English; James Sanders, son of Mr. and Mrs. Belle Sanders, 133 N. Parrott, and Loretta C. Mulvey, 1048 Corey Ave., senior student in Roseburg High school, have been awarded tuition fee scholarships for the school year of 1949-50 at the University of Oregon by the Oregon State System of Higher Education.

To be eligible, students who have previously attended an institution of higher learning must have a grade point average of 2.30 or above and an entering student must rank in the upper third of his high school graduating class.

Fire Kills Child Day Father Due From Overseas

MT. VERNON, May 24.—(AP)—A two-and-a-half-year-old girl was burned to death and her mother and brother suffered serious burns Monday as fire destroyed their home here, Fire Chief Roland Thomas reported.

The victim was Kathleen Close. Her mother, Mrs. Lester B. Close, 27, escaped from the home with a son, Michael, one year old. Both suffered critical degree burns on the head and body.

Another son, 5-year-old Bruce, was playing outside when the fire started and was not injured. Thomas said the flames swept through the two-story, frame structure so quickly that no efforts could be made to save Kathleen.

Thomas reported when firemen arrived, the hysterical mother told them the child was in an upstairs room, but when the blaze was put out, firemen found her in a downstairs crib.

Close, a Navy chief petty officer, was to arrive here today from San Francisco. He recently returned to this country from duty in the Orient.

State Timber Harvest Tax Revenue Declines

SALEM, May 24.—(AP)—Collections from the state timber harvest tax totaled \$263,055 in the past nine months, or \$8,000 less than for the similar period a year ago, State Tax Commissioner Wallace S. Wharton reports. Collections in the first three months of this year were only \$33,492, compared with \$101,218 in the first three months last year. This drop was caused by the severe winter weather which hampered logging operations.

F. W. Leadbetter Oregon Estate Is Reappraised

PORTLAND, May 24.—(AP)—The Oregon estate of Frederick William Leadbetter, lumber and pulp industrialist who died last December in Los Angeles, has been appraised at \$276,687.50. About \$190,000 of the amount is in 2,500 acres of industrial North Portland tracts. He placed the land in a trust with funds to go to Willamette University. The bulk of the remaining portion was to be distributed to relatives.

Communist Leaders Open Defense In N. Y. Trial

NEW YORK, May 24.—(AP)—States government. Eleven top U. S. Communist leaders opened their defense Monday after Federal Judge Harold R. Medina refused to dismiss conspiracy charges against them. John W. Gates, editor of the Daily Worker and one of the defendants, was the first defense witness to take the stand. Gates and the others are charged with conspiring to advocate the overthrow of the United States government. The government rested its case last Thursday after 123 days of evidence and argument. Judge Medina on Friday denied a defense motion for a mistrial. He repeated the denial Monday. Also denied were motions for acquittal, for dismissal on grounds of insufficient proof and to strike out testimony given by undercover agents planted in Communist ranks by the FBI.

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