

# The News-Review

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## Erickson's 'Martyrdom'

By BRUCE BLOSSAT  
 NEA Editorial Writer

When Frank Erickson, the 54-year-old New York gambler, pleaded guilty to bookmaking charges the other day, he may or may not have thought the cards were stacked against him.

But whatever his motive, it's certain he's a hero in the gambling world today. By avoiding a trial, he's kept the public's embarrassing gaze off not only his own affairs but those of many other bookies in a lot of places.

Names, details of technique, clientele, and numerous other trade secrets would have been exposed. Now, thanks to Erickson's "martyrdom," most of this will be untouched in the district attorney's files.

If anyone has any doubts what withering damage the spotlight does to the careers of men on the left-hand side of the law, he need only note Erickson's behavior in a New York courtroom. Throughout the entire proceedings, the mild-mannered, heavy-jowled gambler was ashen and frightened. He managed to utter just one word, and that with difficulty.

Frank Hogan, the New York district attorney, calls Erickson the "biggest and most notorious bookmaker in the United States." Hence, an international program comes into conflict with domestic interests.

The government proposes, first, to lower the import tariff on plywood. Second, the European cooperation administration has announced it is buying millions of feet of Douglas fir plywood logs—called "peelers" in the trade—for shipment to Korea. The peelers could be expected to return from Korean plants to the United States as plywood at prices, reflecting reduced tariff and cheap native labor, lower than domestic plants can post.

This is a plan reminiscent of the "Jap squares" which Japan used to import from the northwest slice into strips for facing with Philippine hardwoods, and return as woodenware, household goods, furniture and industrial items at low prices.

Washington and Oregon produce from 90 to 95 per cent of the nation's softwood plywood—Washington almost twice as much as Oregon. There is now and has been for some time a shortage of high grade peeler logs, especially in Washington, where some mills have been moving logs from as far south as Roseburg, Ore. Prices of peelers are high and will go higher if the shortage is accentuated by large shipments to Korea. This would tend to drive the prices of plywood to consumers upward and encourage substitution of other materials.

The northwest already faces steady competition from imported Canadian pulp, plywood and lumber. Any program to deprive the plywood mills of logs, drive prices up and create unemployment by admission of Korea to the market certainly should be subject to review. But Mr. Ellsworth has not received any encouragement from the administration.

## Dillard

By ROSA HEINBACH

Of great interest to the residents of this community is the new home being built for one of the well known families, Mr. and Mrs. Emery E. Baker on Highway 42 in Brockway. The construction of the five-room house with full basement and one large room on the upper story is in charge of Charles A. McCord, Dillard carpenter. The 600 acre Baker ranch extends through Brockway and Dillard where he farms extensively, raising wheat, hay, grain, livestock and fruit for the local markets.

Mr. and Mrs. Wade Gentry and two sons, Wayland and Jerry, have moved into the former "old home place" of the Buell family. The Gentry's son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Odie Phillips, and son have moved in with them from Ola, Arkansas. Mrs. Wally Preston, another daughter and three children are visiting her parents from Klamath Falls for the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Reece have moved from Roseburg to a new home in Brockway on Highway 42. Mrs. Reece was the former Francine Laurance, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Laurance. Dick Reece is employed with the Antonson Painting company, painting state bridges.

Donna McSorley of Sweet Home has been the house guest at the A. M. Fennell residence for the past two weeks. She is a school chum of Doris Fennell. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geln McSorley, came to Dillard on Friday. Mr. and Mrs. Fennell and Mr. and Mrs. McSorley drove to Grants Pass on Saturday morning to visit Mrs. McSorley's brother, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Perkins and family. The McSorley family will return to their home in Sweet Home on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Meier of Los Angeles and Mr. and Mrs. Don Meier of Corvallis were Tuesday evening guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Nickerson.

Mrs. Allan McLennan and three children, Jackie, Patricia and Suzanne of Brockway, left Friday morning with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wilton, for Wilkie, Sask. Canada. The Wiltons have been visiting their two sons and daughter and families in this vicinity for the past two weeks. Mr. McLennan plans to leave in about a month for Wilkie to get his family.

## Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

### Threat To Plywood

(Portland Oregonian)

Representative Harris Ellsworth, Republican of Oregon's 4th district, is protesting vigorously administration plans which threaten the northwest's big plywood industry. These involve efforts to increase the dollar buying power of countries the United States is assisting under the Marshall plan.

Hogan is confident Erickson has now been forced from the gambling picture for all time. Again, that contention may be debatable. One thing, however, the case definitely does do:

It demonstrates that the top men of today's gambling and crime syndicates can be snared, for all their clever front to "stay legal" and operate behind a facade of legitimate business. And they can be caught on charges that bear real relation to their questionable activities, rather than through reliance on such incidental violations as federal income tax evasion.

Action against Erickson must be just a starter. Some man or group of men will try to pick up the scrapper he has dropped. The gambling business probably will go on pretty much as usual unless the authorities smash his whole set-up and his rivals as well. Without this sequel, Erickson's conviction will serve little purpose.

Putting Erickson behind bars for the first time in his life is a move, too, that should lend much heart to the U. S. senators now probing crime in the capital. Having seen the tangible proof that results are possible, the Senate crime investigating committee should redouble its efforts to unearth the full story of organized criminal operations in America. Once they begin binking under the glare of news photographer's flash bulbs, the criminals will be on the way out.

## It's Dead, but It Can't Lie Down



## Society and Clubs

By LOTUS KNIGHT PORTER and BETTY ALLEN

### SDC HOME EC CLUB HAS ENJOYABLE MEETING ON FRIDAY

South Deer Creek Grange Home Economics club met Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. W. H. Bailey with Mrs. Earl Duncan and Mrs. Wilbur Webb assisting hostesses. Other members present were Mrs. S. W. Van Voorst, chairman, Mrs. Tom Bell, Mrs. Dale Haley, Mrs. Gene Mathis, Mrs. Robert Findlay, Mrs. Clarence Branton and Mrs. C. H. Bailey.

Plans were made for a cooked food sale to be held Friday, June 30th, at the J.V. Sporting Goods store beginning at 9 a.m. Mrs. Tom Bell and Mrs. Bill Haley will be co-chairmen of the sale. All Grange ladies are requested to either donate food or cash for the sale.

There will be no meeting of the club in July. Refreshments were served at the tea hour by the three hostesses.

The next Grange meeting is dated for the evening of July 15 at the hall. Refreshments will be in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Melton, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brumback and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bailey.

### GENE BRATSKY IS HONORED ON TENTH BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY

Gene Bratsky was entertained on his 10th birthday at a party given by his mother, Mrs. Harry Bratsky, at their home in Dillard. Contest games were played with six prizes awarded. The delightfully appointed table was decorated with candy table favors, napkins hand decorated with Walt Disney funnies and a birthday cake topped in the circus animal motif. Gifts were presented to the honored guest. Those present were: Larry Salo, Robert Jorgensen, Richard and Mitchel Anderson, Dean Nelson, Joseph Meeks, Billy Thomas, Warren Heinback, David McCord, and the honored guest, Gene Bratsky.



**HONORED**—Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hampton were honored at a delightful surprise housewarming party at their new home at 1436 Riverside Drive, Laurelwood, Saturday evening, when their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wiley Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Herman entertained.

Canasta and pinocle were in play during the evening. The refreshments were served later in the evening from a lace-covered table centered with a beautifully decorated and tiered cake. Besides the guests of honor and the two hostesses and hosts, those present were Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Dora, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Sargent, Mr. and Mrs. Dellis Cornutt, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Addison, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Farris Sr., Lloyd Eddington and Jack Holmes and Bill Ward of Los Angeles. (Picture by Fredrickson's Photo Lab)

## Winston

By MRS. GEORGE BACHER

Mrs. A. D. Fox accompanied by her three children, Gary, Carolyn and Jimmy, and her nephew, Vernon Thompson, motored to Sweet Home Tuesday where they were guests of Mrs. Fox's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thompson. The group returned to Winston on Friday.

Mrs. Archie Wilson and son, Travis, went to Portland last Sunday where the latter took the train for San Diego to enter boot camp naval training. Young Wilson, who completed his junior year of high school in Roseburg plans to further his education during the four years for which he has enlisted in the service. He is well known in this community having spent all of his 17 years here, attending the Dillard school prior to his entry into the Roseburg schools. His parents have received several letters from him since he reached his destination in California, and he writes that he is "very happy with the situation."

Mrs. Wilson returned on Wednesday bringing with her Mrs. John Wilson who has been residing in Portland. The John Wilsons visited in this community for many years prior to selling their ranch to their son, Archie, and moving into Roseburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Thompson spent several days of last week visiting at various coastal points. Another unusual event has happened in Winston, causing much grief to berry growers. Trips have attacked raspberries which according to farmers and the county agent is a very rare thing.

These invaders usually concentrate on fruit orchards. Their appearance at this time of year is particularly serious as such DDT sprays as are generally recommended cannot be used without damage to the crops as berries are ready to be marketed. Most growers are using liquid nicotine sulphate sprays as a means of control.

Much activity meets the eye these days on the property of Jim Taber, Winston barber. Directly in front of his present barber shop a large new building which will house two separate business places is under way. The building, located 32 feet off Highway 20 in Winston, is being constructed of Lite-rock blocks by Gene Lasher, Winston contractor. Completion is planned within 30 days at which time Taber will open a much larger barber shop in the south end of the building, and he will be assisted by Frank Dinden, Portland barber. The other portion of the building will be devoted to a cafe which has been leased by Mrs. John Peden.

To the south a new service station is being erected by Bob Lambert of Roseburg. This property has been leased by Taber to the Tidewater Associated Oil company for whom C. D. McDermott is the local distributor. It is planned that the station will be open for business on or about August 1.

### Salem Prisoner Faces Eastern Murder Charge

SALEM, June 27.—(AP)—Two Philadelphia, Pa., detectives left for the east coast last night by train with Charles Johnson, charged with the murder of a Philadelphia man last May 28.

Johnson was arrested by Salem police after being identified through a description printed in a local newspaper. The detectives said Johnson will stand trial for the murder of Thomas Rispoli, 51, who was slain during a robbery near his home.

### FROZEN FUNDS BLOOMINGTON, Ill.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.—(AP)—Money, Mrs. Taylor McGinnis will tell you, isn't safe anywhere in a house these days. A burglar stole four one dollar bills from her icebox.

### SOME PEOPLE LIKE SKUNKS LONG BEACH, Calif.

CAROL ANNE VOISBURG, 12, reports she had 50 offers to adopt her pets after a picture of the girl and her three baby skunks appeared in the Long Beach Press-Telegram.

## In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

**THIS** changing world note: In London the other night, an intruder broke into Marlborough house, the home of Queen Mother Mary, stabbed her housekeeper seven times and beat up the housekeeper's help. Queen Mary, asleep in another part of the house, wasn't disturbed.

**THAT** could happen in the homes of any of us commoners, whether British or American. Imagine it happening in the palace housing the mother of the King of England (whose other titles, if enumerated fully, would fill at least a couple of inches in this printed column).

The first thing we know, somebody will break into the Kremlin and lift Uncle Joe's wallet.

**HUMAN** nature note: The teletype tells us that "Scotland Yard's HIGHEST OFFICIALS" went into an immediate emergency conference to discuss the apparent laxity of security arrangements around the queen's home.

High and low alike, we rush to lock the stable after the horse has been stolen.

**GOVERNMENT** economy note: The Library of Congress (perhaps after reading in the papers that Uncle Sam is behind with his bills and is having to increase the mortgage on the house to pay for his groceries) decided to PRACTICE ECONOMY. It selected pencil stubs as the object of its money-saving campaign. After the manner of government institutions, it then issued a bulletin describing the stub-collecting process. The bulletin says:

"The routine is simple . . . Members of the staff should turn in stubs to the divisional secretaries . . . The divisional secretaries will consign them to the supply officer . . . The supply officer will in turn issue them on demand to the stock and reader service, serials division, E. T. C."

The final report showed that in this manner 168 pencil stubs were collected.

**EXPECT** the pencil stubs saved in the big economy binge may have been worth as much as a dime and it is probable that the printing or the mimeographing of the bulletin of instructions and the final report on the campaign didn't cost more than \$10.

Isn't government wonderful?

**GOVERNMENT** progress note: The armed forces of the United States of America have decided to "give enlisted personnel a cash incentive for taking care of their clothing." Here is how it will work:

"Starting July 1, enlisted men and women of all services will be given money with which to buy clothes . . . Any saving in the clothing allowances will be pocketed by the enlisted men and women . . . the system also is expected to cut down on administrative costs."

**YOU** ex-GIs know how it usta be. You'd maybe snag a hole in your blouse. Whereupon you'd jump; the supply sergeant, and if your powers of logic were good or if the "sarge" had a headache and didn't feel up to a heavy argument, you got a new blouse issued to you.

The government's thinking is that under the new system you'll get out your little old repair kit and stitch up the snagged place, thus SAVING YOURSELF DOUGH and saving Uncle Sam a house.

**ALL** this talk about heading for Socialism, you see, is just wicked Republican propaganda. Our good old uncle is leading his GI children along the free incentive road. He's banishing Socialism even in the army.

**(HORRIBLE** thought: Spose there's another war. Spouse you're in Paris and broke. Spouse you flirt with the idea of selling your OD shirt to a black marketer for plenty "coonyak" money. IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD, for you'll have to buy another shirt with your own money to replace it!)

**MORE CITY JOBS**

CHICAGO—(AP)—The number of men and women who work for cities in the U. S. has reached a record high.

The International City Managers association reports the total of such employees was 1,082,000 at the start of 1950, a gain of 43,000 in one year. Payrolls have gone up, too. They totaled \$219,000,000 in October, 1949, compared with \$206,000,000 a month a year earlier.

## PHONE 100

between 6:15 and 7 p. m., if you have not received your News-Review.  
 Ask for Edythe Brown

## Television Station Freeze Based On Mechanical Reasons, FCC Explains

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—A man writes in: "Why doesn't my city have more than one television station? And when does it look like there'll be more than one?"

He's not the first to ask that question, since the government has not approved a license for a new TV station since Oct. 1, 1948. It came about this way:

If you want to open a new radio or TV station, you can't do so unless you get a license, which means permission and approval, from the Federal Communications commission.

The FCC is the government agency which controls radio and TV. In the fall of 1948, with hundreds of applications for licenses for new TV stations on hand, the FCC suddenly announced:

No more licenses would be approved for an indefinite time. Since then, almost two full years ago, the FCC hadn't approved one.

There are now 103 TV stations operating and six more being built. When finished, they'll start business. But the license applications of all 109 were okayed by FCC before its freeze order late in 1948.

(The FCC has on hand 351 frozen applications from would-be TV station owners, all waiting for the FCC's go-ahead.)

**Freeze Explained**

But what caused the freeze anyway? The FCC has some explanations which can be boiled down to something like this:

1. There is interference between some of the TV stations already operating. Which means: transmitters are so close together that they interfere with each other.

2. There's lack of room for new stations until some adjustments are made about distributing the air waves differently—in order to give TV stations more air wave room in which to operate.

Come the question: since the freeze was put in almost two full years ago, when is FCC going to get around to straightening out the air-wave problem and letting more new stations get built?

There's no definite answer from the FCC. But its chairman, Wayne Coy, said some weeks ago it hopes to be able to lift the freeze around the end of 1950 and begin okaying licenses for new stations in 1951.

Meanwhile, the picture is complicated for FCC because of color television, since color TV will be involved in the air-wave problem that FCC finally solves.

For more than six months, covering the latter part of 1949 and the early part of 1950, the FCC held dreary, technical hearings on color TV. The question was:

Is color TV sufficiently advanced to be given to the public? And, since more than 4,000,000 black and white TV sets have been sold to the public, then—

How can the TV industry provide color shows in such a way that the present black-and-white sets in homes can continue to be useful?

More than a year ago FCC asked that anyone who had a color TV system which could be fitted into present black-and-white sets step up and show it.

Only three outfits stepped up at the hearings with complete systems, ready to show the FCC. They were RCA (Radio Corporation of America), CBS (Columbia Broadcasting System), and CITI (Columbia Television, Inc.) of San Francisco.

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