

# The News-Review

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## SERVICE TO SELF

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Roseburg's national guard unit, Company D, 186th Infantry, is in Fort Lewis, Wash., today, starting a two weeks' annual encampment.

We hope it is firmly impressed upon these men that the instruction they are receiving may mean the difference between life and death; that their membership in the national guard gives them a better chance for survival, in the event of combat experience, than men who have not had the advantage of advance training.

Casualty statistics from past wars furnish conclusive evidence that regular army and national guard members have a far higher survival rate than men with less previous schooling.

Most of us think of war casualties in terms of men killed or injured in battle. Actually more men are lost from accidents, behind-the-lines illness and other disability than from combat.

A man entering military service must learn a great many things more important to his survival than dodging enemy bullets and bombs. Our system of civilian, non-professional armies takes men from all walks of life. With few exceptions, these men have had their lives ordered for them up to that point. They have lived at home, have been cared for by mothers and wives, have had only limited discipline, have been exposed to average danger only.

### Must Learn New Mode Of Life

Suddenly these recruits find themselves in camps composed entirely of men. Companions cannot be selected. A man must adjust himself to living with other men, with no women to wait on him. He must associate with men he would probably shun in civilian life and, in turn, be accepted by men who would ignore him under other circumstances.

Probably for the first time in his life he is entirely on his own. He must learn to conform to his associations and environment, must learn to submit to rigid discipline, must learn to accept and perform disagreeable tasks, must learn to take fatigue, hardship, discomfort, exhausting labor in stride.

The man who has the temperament for quick and easy adjustment to these changed conditions can have a lot of fun. Army life is particularly tough on the non-conformist.

Men who have worked as accountants, clerks, executives and in other office jobs suddenly find themselves in a new world made up entirely of exceedingly dangerous machines, where an act of carelessness or negligence can result in instant death or permanent injury. Living in large groups, rather than as individuals in a home, forces a man to learn new habits of sanitation and personal hygiene. Military records show that prevalence of epidemic diseases, appendicitis, nervous disorders, etc., is particularly high in camps composed of new recruits. Within a short time men learn how to protect their health under mass living conditions.

### Guard Has Fine Record

Men enrolled in the national guard are not exposed to these changes as suddenly as are men who volunteer or are inducted without previous training. Guardsmen are taught military life gradually. While living at home, they attend regular armory sessions where they receive gradual military indoctrination. At intervals they attend encampments where for brief periods they are exposed to the rigors of army life. But, because of the short duration of the encampment, the requirements for adjustment are less extreme. Lessons are absorbed more leisurely. When the time comes that military service is required, these men make the transition from civilian to military life with far less physical and emotional disturbance.

Too, they have learned to use the weapons to which they are assigned. They have learned the fundamentals of combat. They have been thoroughly drilled in protective measures. They have far less to learn once they hit the firing line.

Records show that the percentage of survival rises rapidly after the first few days of combat. A man exposed to enemy fire quickly learns self-protection. Either he learns quickly or he becomes a casualty. After a few days, the things he has learned improve his chances for survival. The casualty rate among men of one or two weeks' experience is far lower than among the inexperienced.

In these days of constant turmoil, when every man of military age is faced with the prospect of a call to arms, the national guard offers opportunity for every eligible young man to best serve his country and himself.

## Postal Rates Hike Given First O.K.

WASHINGTON — (AP) — A bill hiking most classes of postal rates by \$138,400,000 a year has been approved by the house postoffice committee.

The last minute, the committee knocked out a provision by Rep. Rees (R-Kans.) to boost the pay of postal workers an estimated \$150,000,000.

The increase in postal rates is intended to help the Post office department's expected deficit of \$500,000,000 or more during the next fiscal year. If the rates raise clause had not been rejected, the department would have gone further into the red.

However, a bill calling for an 8.8 percent pay boost for nearly all government workers was approved by the senate postoffice and civil service subcommittee.

The increase would be given to all postal and classified civil service employees, provided no raise exceeds \$800 a year. In some lower-paid positions, the pay would be raised even more than 8.8 percent. The measure now goes to the

full postoffice and civil service committee.

The house committee's rejected pay proposal would have provided boosts of \$600 annually for salaries of postal workers and of 20 cents hourly for most others in the postal service.

**Automobile Driver's Accident Tax Proposed**

RHINELANDER, Wis. — (AP) — A Wisconsin official has come up with an idea for a tax that all good citizens would try to dodge.

It's an accident tax, by which each automobile driver would be taxed for accidents in which he was involved. The amount of the tax would depend on how much the driver was to blame.

Raymond E. Jensen, vice chairman of Wisconsin's highway commission, broached the plan.

The tax rate would start at \$25 but multiply for succeeding months until "a driver who repeated in accidents would soon reach a tax rate so high that he could no longer afford to continue to hold a driver's license."

"And what's more," he added, "the state would give you every aid and encouragement and instruction for dodging the tax."

## Italian Renaissance



## Scops from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnett S. Martin

After church last Sunday we kept a date on highway 101. Is there anywhere a lovelier drive than the loop which swings through Drain to the coast, then along the coast to Coquille, over to Roseburg through Camas Valley, Roseburg and back through Drain again? Doesn't matter where one starts the loop — it's lovely! We didn't have time to drive the long way home.

I wonder if right now is the most beautiful time of all to see Highway 387. Seemed so as we drove past heavenly blue wild lilacs (maybe you call it Ceanothus), rosy-pink wild roses, glowing yellow of broom, the flat white clusters of elderberry blossoms, thimble berry blossoms, and nearer the ground, the usual summer daisies, buttercups, Queen Anne's lace, and all the other things. Sometimes there would be big patches of purple yetch with the rose-pink wild roses, making an exquisite color combination.

Our lilacs are much later than down on 99. Our single, paler lilac is right in its glory, especially from upstairs window. It is one great, fragrant bouquet, quite out of reach except with a stepladder. A friend looking at it began to quote the lines about the beauty

of the lilac. Do you, too, remember? I looked it up to share with you:

"In the dooryard fronting an old farmhouse . . .

Stands the lilac-bush tall-growing with heart-shaped leaves of rich green,

With many a pointed blossom rising delicate, with the perfume strong I love,

With every leaf a miracle . . ."

Then, too, this home-symbol, lilacs, so fragrant in the rain, remind us of Amy Lowell's long poem, "Lilacs," and these lines:

"Lilacs in door-yards

Holding quiet conversations with an early moon;

You persuaded the housewife that her dishpan was of silver

And her husband an image of pure gold."

(Amy Lowell)

Maybe, who knows, it was the lilacs that "persuaded" me to go out and take down a "For Sale" sign on our gate. We'd like to live on Highway 38 . . . but we love this place better than any other place we have lived — in lilac time anyhow.

## In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page 1)

that ensues when water is applied intelligently to soil.

This thing we marveled at is on Lloyd Gift's ranch in the upper Langell valley. It has been developing in Lloyd's mind, of course, for years. It has begun to SHOW UP only recently.

First he got the water. Then he got his ditches where he wanted them. Then he sowed the grass seed—from an airplane—and after that he put the water on. That was about four years ago.

He sowed a mixture of grasses—alsike, blue grass, fescues, orchard grass, meadow foxtail and half a dozen other varieties. The seed cost \$10 an acre. The plane seeding cost a dollar. The land itself was just the kind of land I've described—lava rock desert. Without water, it was practically valueless.

Lloyd says it took 40 acres of it to keep a cow.

Now he has actually on it one cow to two acres, and the grass is getting ahead of him. The stand thickens by natural seeding from year to year, and he thinks that time is close when one acre will handle one cow.

Now for the payoff. In our free enterprise economy, experiments have to show a profit if they are to be of value. Lloyd says that last year he NETTED more per acre from this irrigated pasture than from his crop lands down in the rich bottom soil.

The thing I want to emphasize is that there was no costly preparation of this land. No leveling of it. No tearing out of the sage brush. He just laid out his simple ditches so that the water would flow fairly evenly down through the rocks.

There was no removal of the rocks. They're still there. You stub your toes on them as you walk through the thick grass. It almost looks as if they HELP in the irrigation project. Someone suggested that they gather heat from the sun in the day and distribute it by night.

Anyway, the grass is lush and rich and thick. It seems to be slowly covering up the rocks. At other point, ONE MAN irrigates 300 acres of it. That helps to cut down operating cost.

Lloyd now has about 300 acres

of this irrigated rocky land pasture. He plans to add about 1000 acres more.

It's hard to believe unless you've seen it. But here's about all there is to it: Get the water up topside and let it run down hill, arranging your ditches so you will get good coverage. As I remarked before, the rocks actually seem to help more than they hinder. Nature does the rest.

Keep this point in mind: The water that runs down that rocky slope first produces grass. And WHAT grass? You have to see it to believe it. Then (minus evaporation and transpiration (it runs on down into the flat, rich bottom lands and produces other crops.

What a revolution it would work in the semi-arid great basin east of the mountains if every possible drop of water that trickles down from the hills could be made to produce every possible blade of grass before it finally sinks into the soil or evaporates or runs on downhill to do whatever other jobs may be found for it to do before it finally reaches the salty ocean.

Water is truly the life blood of the West. We must learn to use every drop of it to the fullest possible extent. At his Langell Valley ranch Lloyd Gift is showing us how to make water do jobs we hadn't thought of before.

**College Students Get Commissions**

John Nathan High and Robert L. Hickerson, both of Roseburg, were commissioned second lieutenants in the U. S. air force reserve at recent commencement exercises at Oregon State college. The majority of the newly-commissioned officers will be called to active duty early this summer, while some will be granted delays to continue advanced studies of special value to the air force.

High, who received his degree in agriculture, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. N. High, 531 E. Lane, Roseburg.

Hickerson received a bachelor of science degree in the field of physics.

The Phoenicians made woolen goods and sold them throughout the world known at their time.

## Reader Opinions

### Property Owner Raps Conduct Of Fishermen

ROSEBURG — Much is written about the tired business man who finds relaxation and rest after his busy day, fishing our beautiful streams. May I have a small amount of space to state the case of the man whose farm borders the river? He gets no relaxation nor rest during the fishing and hunting season.

Though we have always given permission to fish to anybody who is considerate enough to come to the house and request it, our place is constantly overrun with people who, not only do not consult us, but leave their beer bottles strewn over our river bank, let their dogs run loose, and leave gates open.

One individual dumped his year's accumulation of tin cans to the edge of the lane leading to our house.

The crowning blow came the other evening when a young neighbor came to our door and informed us that the suspension bridge which connects us with the highway was on fire. A cigar had evidently been tossed toward the river but had landed on the bridge instead.

While our dinner guests and neighbors helped us fight that fire, two fishermen stood on the bank and fished. When asked what they knew about it, they replied that they knew it was burning but they didn't know to whom the bridge belonged. I wonder how they expected to get back to town.

I have great sympathy for the members of the desk-borne brigade who must get away from it all. I envy them too. We don't dare go away.

HELEN ROBINSON  
Idlewild Route  
Roseburg, Ore.

### Ann Roth, Brockway, Receives Scholarship

Ann Roth of Brockway, a freshman in home economics at Oregon State college, has been awarded a tuition scholarship by the state system of higher education to attend OSC during the 1951-52 school year, according to Dallas Norton, chairman of the OSC scholarship committee.

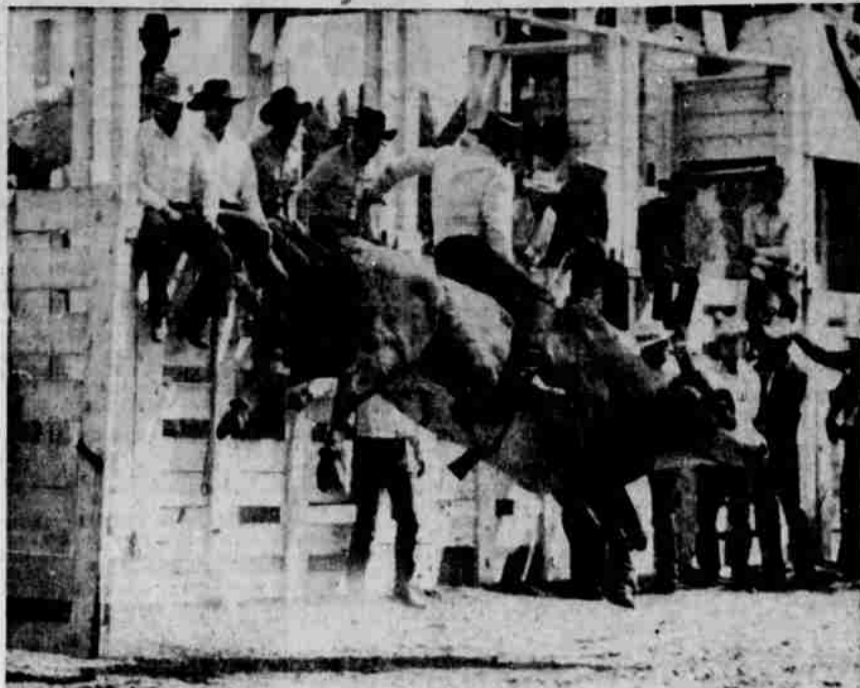
The scholarship will partly cover tuition fees, and this year totaled \$70.50 for three terms. The award is made in accordance with a state law authorizing the state system to give a limited number of such scholarships to deserving students, based on scholarship and financial need.

### Negro Vets' Hospital Turned Down By House

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The House has refused to authorize building of a veterans' hospital for Negroes in memory of Booker T. Washington, Negro educator.

At the urging of the only two Negro members of congress, Reps. Dawson (D-Miss.) and Powell (D-N.Y.), the House voted down the authorization bill, 222 to 117.

Your News-Review has not been delivered by 8:15 p.m., phone 2-2631 between 8:15 and 7 p.m.



TOM BRIDE HAS HIS hands full as he tries to stay astride "Doc" in the bull-riding event at a rodeo. Bride will be one of the many seasoned rodeo performers who will display their skill at the Sheriff's Posse two-day rodeo at the Douglas county fairgrounds June 23 and 24. A galaxy of other cowboy stars are expected to compete. (Picture by DeVere Helfrich)

## Driver Training In Schools Pays Off In Traffic Safety, Findings Disclose

By BRUCE BLOSSAT

Laments about the nation's motor traffic fatalities usually wind up with a spirited call for more driver education. It's hopeful, therefore, to be able to report that genuine progress is being made toward that end.

The Association of Casualty and Surety companies, which has played a big role in spurring driver education programs, recently summed up the cheerful evidence. The findings deal with high school students, since most programs are in that field.

In the current school year nearly 750,000 students were enrolled in driver-training courses. That's more than double the 330,000 who were enrolled four years ago. A total of 3845 schools are giving courses, a marked advance from the 7108 which offered such instruction last year. Since 1948 nearly 6000 schools have added driver-training to their curricula.

This is good news, for those who may have despaired of seeing any solid hope of improvement in the traffic situation. The association estimates that students trained in driving will have a three-to-one better chance of avoiding motor accidents than those who get no formal training.

But there are still some 11,500 schools with perhaps another 700,000 students that lack any kind of driver-training courses. So the room for expansion of these programs is ample.

What facts are there to support the view that driver training really pays off? Naturally, since most of the programs are relatively new, comparative figures aren't numerous. But a few studies have been made.

In Delaware, the motor vehicle department analyzed the driving records of 1600 licensed motorists, half with training and half without. The survey showed that of the 800 trained drivers, only 100 had either been arrested for traffic violations, involved in an accident, or warned by police officers. Of the untrained drivers, 709, or 96 percent, had some kind of black mark against them.

A later study covering 2200 drivers showed that 19.7 percent of the 1100 trained ones had a violation, an accident or a warning, while 78.7 percent of the 1100 untrained motorists fell into the same categories.

A Wisconsin survey disclosed that driver education reduced accidents per 1000 months of licensed driving by 58 percent, and convictions for traffic violations by 59.4 percent.

In Massachusetts, the number of driver education courses in 1941 was 48. By 1947 it had soared to 217. In that span, the number of accidents involving youths of 16 and 17 dropped from 1303 to 842.

Massachusetts is now undertaking a new 10-year study of the value of driver education. On the basis of just six months' study, the state reports that untrained drivers had nine times the reportable violations that trained motorists did, and 10 times as many as those who had received both classroom instruction and practice driving.

These surveys suggest strongly

that driver-training courses are one real answer to the frightening toll of traffic deaths and injuries. Let's hope the day is not far off when no school is without such training.

## McKay Asks Govt. O.K. On Oregon's Road Bond Issue

SALEM — (AP) — Governor Douglas McKay has asked the federal government to approve the issuing of \$40,000,000 in state highway construction bonds which were authorized by the legislature.

The letter was sent to Dean Witter and company, San Francisco, which screens such requests on behalf of the federal office of defense mobilization. This office requested states, cities and counties to get federal approval before issuing more than \$1,000,000 worth of bonds.

"The impact of World War II was so severe on Oregon roads that the critical deficiencies or work that is needed now amounts to \$150,000,000," Governor McKay wrote.

He said the highway commission needs to sell \$15,000,000 worth of bonds a year for five years to take care of these critical needs.

"When the strategic network of military highways was selected prior to the Second World War, it was found that the roads most vital to the peacetime economy are likewise the roads most necessary in time of war," he continued.

The governor wrote that "failure to restore the critical deficiencies with current income, due first to the depression and then to the World War, has brought about a truly serious problem and has increased maintenance costs to an alarming extent."

"I would greatly appreciate your approval of the issuance of \$40,000,000 of bonds at the rate of \$15,000,000 per calendar year for the next three years. I believe it to be in the public interest and particularly necessary for the defense effort of Oregon."

A large percentage of the communities in Oregon are not served by rail, and must depend on truck transport to haul the major portion of their commodities. Likewise, the logging operations so essential to the defense effort depend on trucks to haul the logs to the mills in order for them to operate."

Loch Lomond is the largest and generally regarded as the most beautiful of the Scottish lakes. It is 23 miles long and five miles at its greatest width.

## A Tribute To... OUR FLAG!

"Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue." When we sing those stirring words at home, at school, as a parade passes, or whatever the occasion, let's pay MORE than merely lip service to the Grand Old Flag! Poems have been written for Old Glory. Statesmen have eulogized its immortality. Soldiers on battle-fronts throughout the world have died for it. It flies majestically night and day over the White House. It is the blessed Flag of Freedom and stands for ALL the things we hold dearest. Honor the Flag that is the signature of our country and fly it proudly in your heart!

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## Enjoy your VACATION



Worry Wart may not be a champ pitcher, but he bats 1.000 when it comes to entertaining folks. While vacationing this year, be sure to follow him in OUT OUR WAY—and read all the other comics, too. Have The News-Review mailed to you while you're away. Phone 2-2631