

The News-Review

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DEMISE OF MR. MILLION

By CHARLES V. STANTON

The National Safety council predicts that "Mr. Million" will die sometime in December.

"Mr. Million" will be the one-millionth American to be killed in an automobile accident.

Considering the terrible traffic toll in Douglas county, it is entirely possible that "Mr. Million" will be one of our friends and neighbors. Since 1936, we are told by the secretary of state, Oregon has contributed approximately 6,000 fatalities to the national automobile accident total, now rapidly approaching the one-million mark. At present Douglas county is leading the entire state of Oregon, outside the city of Portland, in number of traffic deaths per county. Yet, our population is far less than many counties having a much lower accident record.

Our officials are extremely worried because of the situation. The public apparently is concerned. Yet the list of victims continues to mount. Inexorably we move toward that one-millionth death. Faster and faster comes the day when "Mr. Million" will die.

A few years ago he was expected to live many more years, but, as the rate of traffic fatality has climbed, the predicted date has been advanced — not once, but many times. Now the prediction is that this anticipated tragedy will occur in December, prior to Christmas day. Unless other parts of the country can maintain a better record than we are setting in Douglas county, it may be necessary to advance the date again.

Douglas Prosperity Indicated

Were it not for the shocking death list, we could take much pride in current figures on motor vehicle registrations. But we can read into the statistics one of the factors contributing to our depressing accident record.

Douglas county stands seventh in population among Oregon's 36 counties. But we are fourth in registration of new automobiles so far this year. Multnomah, Lane and Marion counties show higher registrations of new vehicles. Clackamas county, with 50 percent more population than Douglas county, is in fifth place.

A summary of car sales, compiled from the official records of the state motor vehicle department, shows that Douglas county also is buying a larger percentage of higher priced cars than elsewhere in the state. These figures indicate an economic condition above the state average, and compare with industrial payroll figures in which we have advanced from 19th to 4th place, while pressing for third.

At the same time, however, the statistics have some bearing, though it may be minor, on our high rate of accidents. The fact that so many new cars have been purchased would also indicate that we have had a proportionately high rate of used car sales. We do not have figures immediately available, but we believe it is safe to assume that the number of motor cars per capita in Douglas county will rank as high, if not higher, as any county in the state. Yet we have had little improvement in highways. We have had few improvements to relieve congestion. We still have bottlenecks that have existed for years.

It is impossible to increase the number of automobiles per mile of available highway space without increasing the accident hazard. Highway capacity must be increased in proportion to the volume of traffic to maintain normal risk.

The fact that we are increasing the volume of motor vehicle traffic at a far greater rate than our gain in population, and out of proportion to all other counties, while driving on the poorest and least improved state highways, certainly must be considered as one of the factors in our contribution toward the early demise of "Mr. Million."

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page 1)

a dentist in Reno three years ago. I keep 'em in a bureau drawer. They cost me \$150, but you can have 'em for two cents. That's more'n they're worth to me. I'd rather have the darned things in my bureau drawer than in my mouth."

At this point the proprietor chimed in. "I've got half a set, he says. 'I bought 'em in Mexico City, but I hadn't any more than got away from there when I hit into a seed and broke the upper plate. I'm going back, maybe this winter, and I'll see if I can't get me a new set of uppers from the man that made 'em."

"Not that I need 'em much," he added. "I can eat a sirloin steak and enjoy it. All you have to do is to harden up your gums."

"Yep," the customer agrees. It's surprising what you can do that way. Me, I'm a hard rock miner, and I get along pretty well with flapjacks and bacon, but a little ground meat goes good when you come into town. You seem to get so much out of it."

"You work for yourself?" I questioned.

"I sure do," he said with conviction. "None of this workin' for wages for me. You're bossed by the boss of the works and you're bossed by the boss of the union. Workin' for myself, I'm bossed by nobody and I do as I please."

"That's right," the coffee shop proprietor put in. "When you work for yourself, you don't hafta kowtow to anybody."

"You own your mine?" I asked.

"I lease it," he said. "Got a five year lease, but I'm givin' it up. I got \$3,000 out of one pocket and \$1100 out of another. I think maybe

it's about petered out. I called up my pardner on the phone the other day and he said come on into Reno, there's a new car waitin' for you here. I'm goin' to pick it up and head out into the hills again. I know another good lease way up toward Elko."

"That's the way it is in this business. There's always something better over in the next range of hills. Always will be, I reckon. Nevada's got a lot of gold in it for them that can find it."

"This is good coffee," I said to the proprietor.

He smiled in a pleased way. "That's what a lot of people tell me," he said. "I like to give good value to my customers. Makes me feel good."

Contentment? Everybody wants it. Fewer and fewer people in the cities, it seems to me, are finding it. But this hard rock miner and this coffee shop proprietor have it in abundant measure.

Maybe that's what the wide deserts and the purple mountains do to the people who live in them and love them.

Ouster Of Charges Asked By Fred Meyer Stores

PORTLAND — Fred Meyer stores and eight employees, charged with violating federal price regulations, have moved to get a dismissal. Judge Gus J. Solomon set Nov. 2 as tentative date for arguing the matter. The Fred Meyer motion said first that the OPS complaints did not contain facts showing a criminal violation and second, that when employees were questioned by OPS representatives they were told that nothing they said would be held against them.



Fulton Lewis Jr.



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WASHINGTON — U.S. navy and air force plane losses in Korea are higher than disclosed by figures released to the public by the defense department.

Communist radar-directed anti-aircraft fire recently has taken a heavy toll of navy planes and forced a change in the entire theory of support tactics. Accurate radar — directed fire, plus ground fire from concentrated Communist troops, is forcing U. S. aircraft to abandon their free-loop support work. Pilot losses, however, are much lighter than plane losses, since the damaged craft usually can be ditched in the sea. A damaged jet in most cases can glide to a water landing from almost any point above the battlefield. Pilots are picked up by helicopters based at convenient small fields rimming the shore.

Plane loss figures released by the department of defense consist almost entirely of those downed in dog fights with Communist jet fighters. The daily aerial duels comprise only a fraction of the total missions flown on any given day and their casualties represent only a fraction of the actual lost and damaged aircraft. Consistent claims of U. S. air superiority in men and planes would indicate the Reds are suffering even heavier losses. However, few accurate reports of our big bomber losses are ever released, although observers returning from Korea state they are mounting. A public report that "two of our bombers were damaged" does not give the public any inkling that they were damaged so badly it may take weeks or even months, to get them back in flyable shape.

Revelation that Russian speaking pilots are now flying jets against U. S. bombing formations lends support to unofficial reports of high bomber losses. Red jets are jumping B-29 formations in large numbers for the first time since the fighting started. Those privy to actual air losses in Korea blame the policy enforced by President Truman and Secretary of State Dean Acheson. U. S. bombers are still not allowed to blast Communist airfields in Manchuria, some of which are directly on the border between China and North Korea. Communists maintain large ammunition and fuel dumps, repair sheds and even flight training schools at these Manchurian airfields. They would be fat targets for air force and navy fliers, but by presidential decree they enjoy a "do not touch" status as far as our fliers are concerned.

Recent discussions with military personnel in the defense department reveal an almost complete lack of direction in the Korean war. Most high-up aides in the

Starving Man Claims Obedience To Command Of Lord

BELLINGHAM — Found in the woods in the Mount Baker area weak from hunger because "the Lord told me to park there until I starved to death," a 39-year-old Los Angeles man was under observation in Whatcom county jail.

Deflected after losing a job as a rural mail carrier in the Los Angeles area, the man drove steadily until a "voice" told him to drive into the woods near the entrance to the forest, Deputy Sheriff Claude Carlson reported. Covering the car with brush, the man then sat in the car from early last Monday until late Friday when he was discovered by hunters, Carlson said. He left the car occasionally to get water from

Pentagon are disgusted and at a loss to know how or when it can be wrapped up in victory.

Initial hopes were that our army and air arm would destroy the highly trained combat core of the Communist forces. Instead, as the conflict drags on under restricted attrition policies set up by the White House and State department, it is the hard, combat core of U. S. forces that is being chewed to bits. The Communists keep coming with no diminution of fighting skill. And U. S. military leaders are now admitting privately that they were 100 percent wrong initially.

Added to Pentagon woes today, in the light of the paucity of trained U. S. troops — most of the good divisions are either in or on the way to Europe where there is no fighting — is the adoption of a political plan to return to stateside duty all Korean veterans who served the past winter there. All bets are off at the Pentagon that this will ever be done unless current cease-fire talks produce results. And nobody of military importance at the Pentagon honestly expects the current gabbling will consist of more than just that. In fact, combat trained fighting men assigned to the Pentagon openly discuss the degradation of U. S. honor and fighting spirit that so far has been the only product of the lingering negotiations.

Thoroughly muzzled publicly by political edicts from the State department and the White House, Pentagon military aides nevertheless talk openly in Pentagon corridors. What they are looking for is a military spokesman of undisputed experience and rank who is willing to risk his career to protest the political handcuffs now shackling U. S. troops. The war will never be won if American troops and pilots are forced to fight it on the present basis. Pentagon bets are that the growing disgust over political interference will put the necessary iron in the spine of some leading military figure. The bets are that it will be an air force general, and not far off. When it happens, Mr. Truman's Korean war will be blasted off the State department tea-tables and back to the battle fields where it has belonged all along.

Hear Fulton Lewis Daily On KRNR, 4:00 P.M. And 9:15 P.M.

INTERLOPERS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A meeting of the Duval county Republican executive committee never got past the roll call. It was adjourned to let committee heads check party registration of all committee members. Several were challenged and accused of being registered Democrats.

Until 1857, pennies minted in the United States were large coins.

Forest Products Market Report

CORVALLIS — Log prices, pushed by heavy demand, climbed slightly in the southern part of the Willamette valley in the past week. Elsewhere in Oregon prices held steady.

The weekly farm forest products report from Oregon State college also noted that poles and piling made spotty advances of 1 to 3 cents a foot.

DOUGLAS FIR SAWLOGS: Demand for Douglas fir sawlogs was strong, particularly in the southern part of the valley. Second-growth logs over 24 feet long and 19 inches in diameter were \$35 to \$38 a thousand board feet for No. 1's and \$42 to \$48 a thousand for No. 2's. Prices made a \$4 advance in the Eugene area. 12 to 24 foot logs were about steady at \$37 to \$46 a thousand, camp run. 8 foot logs 6 inches in diameter were \$15 to \$18 a cord or \$32 to \$40 a thousand.

Old-growth sawlog prices in the southern valley rose \$4 to the level of other Willamette valley areas. No. 1's brought \$40 and No. 2's brought \$30 a thousand. Peeler's ranged from \$75 to \$110.

Second-growth stumpage quotations were mostly \$12 to \$20 a thousand, depending on quality, location, volume and other factors. PULPWOOD: northern and central valley pulp mills paid \$17 a cord for unpeeled spruce hemlock and true fir. Douglas fir was \$14 to \$17 a cord, with one mill in the central valley quoting \$3.50 a ton.

POLES AND PILING: Long Douglas fir poles and piling were in good demand. Prices were steady to 3 cents per lineal foot higher. Barkie poles ranged from 7 cents a foot for 25 foot piling up to 43 cents for 100 foot lengths. Lists quoted 13 to 18 cents for 40 foot poles and 20 to 25 cents for 50 foot poles. Peeled piling ranged from 25 to 42 cents a foot for 20 to 100 foot lengths.

HARDWOOD LOGS: Most hardwoods were about steady at \$34.50 to \$37.50 a thousand. Alder, ash, maple, oak and chinquapin were in limited demand at these prices. One Portland manufacturer found maple hard to get at \$40. Cottonwood brought \$21 to \$30 a thousand.

OTHER FOREST PRODUCTS: hop poles continued to bring \$1.25 to \$1.50 each for Douglas fir and \$1.75 to \$2.00 for cedar. Car stakes were in good demand at 40 to 45 cents each. Fern went up 2 cents a bunch to 14 cents.

Telephone Lines Will Be Extended To Rock Creek

Telephone service should be extended from Johnny's tavern to Rock Creek by early spring, reports R. J. Henwood, manager of Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co.

The line will be continued from Johnny's tavern, which is about five miles above Glide, through Idlewild Park and into Rock Creek. Henwood said the work will resume as soon as the right-of-way for the new North Umpqua highway has been cleared. Bids have been submitted for the road project, but a contractor has not been named.

If weather conditions permit, the line should be completed by spring, Henwood said.

Get Better-Paying Job, Father Of 14 Warned

INDIANAPOLIS — A judge advised Francis Byrnes, 46-year-old father of 14 children, to get a better job unless he wants to risk a prison term of 1 to 7 years. Byrnes has been a packinghouse worker, but is working as a farm hand near Monrovia, Ind., for \$5 a day. The Marion county welfare department has been paying \$140 for support of his children. Judge Saul I. Rabb of criminal court gave Byrnes until Nov. 13 to get a better-paying job before taking up a non-support charge against him again.



ROLLING OUT THE BARRELS — Contestants in a Paris barrel race start their test in the Place Clichy. Appropriately race was won by Henri Gourdin (front), barrel maker.

Reader Opinions

Giving To Various Groups Draws Pointed Opinion

ROSEBURG — Now that the Community Chest drive is over for this year, I would like to speak my piece. The drive does not seem to be a big success and there are probably many reasons for that. Many families give generously but perhaps there are others who feel as I do that we are giving all through the year to these organizations and this is just one more time.

Take the Campfire group for instance: I happen to belong to three clubs who sponsor them then I give in PTA also buy candy, etc., all during the year. In looking over the Camp Fire budget it seems very large, with a paid secretary on duty. Why can't some of their expense be eliminated with help that is donated? Then, too, the leaders of this group have not

to come in this area and I feel that organization is very worthwhile.

Perhaps there is some other way to work out this problem.

MRS. S. N. PARKER
Roseburg, Ore.

Device Offers Savings For Mill Operators

CORVALLIS — A new experimental machine which stands a chance of revolutionizing power sources and dry-kill methods in lumber mills is being developed at Oregon State college in the Oregon forest products laboratory.

The wood-fired gas turbine may be ready for a test run within two years, according to George Atherton, laboratory engineer. If adapted for commercial use, the machine could result in substantial savings for mill operators.

It operates on a cycle which includes the formation of hot gases through combustion of wood under pressure, Atherton said. The gases drive the turbine and a compressor which furnishes air to the furnace to begin the cycle again. excess power created can be used to operate a generator or other direct-driven machinery and excess gases are useful in drying lumber, Atherton said.

The motto on the first penny authorized by the U. S. Congress was inspired by Benjamin Franklin and said, "Mind your business."

MENDING BASKET

Vahnett Martin - P.O. Box 874, Drain, Or.

How many times through the years, as we drove past a new home where the owners were cleaning up and getting ready to begin really living in it, I have wished that EJ and I could build a home for ourselves. We have remodeled several, but that isn't the same. So today it was a dream come true when we worked hard all day out in the yard, clearing away the trash that always accumulates when a new building is near completion.

GI's Contented, Defense Official Learns In Korea

EASTERN FRONT, Korea — Mrs. Anna Rosenberg sat on a rice paddy dike near Heartbreak ridge and got the GI word on conditions in Korea.

"Never have I seen anything like it," said Mrs. Rosenberg, assistant secretary of defense. "I talked to each of these (20) men and did not receive one single gripe from any of them about the combat conditions over here. Without exception, each man in the division to whom I talked said the food is good, mail service is good and they are getting plenty of winter clothing."

"What about GI benefits and school after we are released?" asked Pfc John Whitmore, Pasadena, Calif.

"They are the same now as World War II veterans enjoyed," she replied. "There also will be loans for some individuals who desire to go into a small business." "Anything new on rotation?" popped Whitmore. It was a query that was foremost in everyone's mind. Mrs. Rosenberg answered:

"We are doing the best we can. Rotation is going fine. If and when the backlog ever catches up, the point system will be lowered." A rousing cheer greeted Mrs. Rosenberg when she said the department of Defense was seeking more front line stage shows and "there will be more girls."

Inspecting GI quarters, Mrs. Rosenberg got down on her hands and knees and crawled in and out of several tents.

"It just goes to prove what I have already said," she quipped. "Men are better housekeepers than women."

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