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HUNTER GOOD CHOICE

By CHARLES D. GRELL

In the selection of Glenn Hunter as Roseburg's outstanding junior citizen of 1954, an impartial panel of judges which reviewed the records of many young men has taken recognition of the work in civic improvement done by people who rarely have their names before the public.

Hunter is a scoutmaster. Dr. V. J. Anderson, who was the first citizen of 1953 and who made the 1954 presentation to Hunter, pointed out that the scoutmaster works an average of 10 hours a week with his boys, the Scouts of Troop 133 and Explorers of Post 133, both sponsored by Riverside PTA.

Hunter also is a pondman at Martin Bros. Box Co. at Oakland. It's rough work, and he undoubtedly often comes home weary. Still, he's found time to work with the youngsters.

The history of scouting at Riverside School is an involved one. Briefly, parents there had run up against disappointments about four years ago which all but canceled out the youth program. But some recognized that the right man could instill and coordinate a solid program. Hunter took over, and he now has one of the finest organizations in the Douglas Fir District.

The first-citizen choice was a well-merited one. It implies that those persons involved in the basic work of the local economy are aware of an important stake in the community. We suspect that many other groups also are going quietly about their spare-time jobs in charity, youth welfare, community affairs and other activities. But they apparently aren't ones to toot their achievements loudly, preferring to confine their energies to their work.

The choice of Hunter by the anonymous judges is a proud one for the community. May there be more like him.

TREE FARMING GAINS

Oregon Statesman, Salem

The United States, so often charged with dissipating its natural wealth, is showing its foresight and good sense in the ever-gaining program of tree farming.

Latest statistics show land owners in 36 states participating in the program. Texas, Washington, Oregon and Arkansas, in that order, top the list, each with more than 3,000,000 acres in well-managed, crop-producing woodlands. Proper care, selective logging and full utilization of scientific controls led to a harvest exceeding \$700 million from the nation's 33,692,965 acres in the program last year. The entire acreage is on the tax rolls.

Particularly encouraging is the wide acceptance of the plan in states where acreages are relatively small. Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas and some of the other commonwealths not regarded as particularly forested have almost as many individual participants as Texas and more than the western states.

The program began in Washington 14 years ago and its progress has been rapid. It not only pays off in cash, but its value as a national heritage is inestimable.

Hal Boyle

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Leaves from a cruising notebook: Venezuela today is the Texas of South America.

So much money is being made here that visiting Texans actually get an inferiority complex, and the U.S. dollar feels like 50 cents.

Just to be sure he wouldn't be mistaken for an ordinary bum, one millionnaire from the interior of the country came to town with calling cards that bore this message printed after his name: "Capital: 6,000,000 bolivars." That's nearly \$2,000,000.

There is so much wealth flowing around that even tourists get a break. If you kick a diamond out of a rock here, the government lets you keep it tax free unless it is worth more than \$7,700. You can also go pearl diving and keep any pearls you find.

The visitor has a mad sensation of being caught in a mad-Century Klondike gold rush. The atmosphere of quick money is overwhelming, and tales of riches made overnight are a Bolivian dozen.

Venezuela is bigger than Texas and Oklahoma combined and larger than any European country except Germany. Its chief income is from oil—no love except the United States produces more—but it also has iron ore deposits rivaling the famed Minnesota Mesabi range. It also has cowboys and Indians, 16,000-foot tall mountains, jungles, beach resorts, and the world's highest waterfalls.

Although the nation has a population of only 5½ million, the government spent half a billion dollars in 1954 on vast public works projects and still ended up with 80 million dollars left in the till. Its huge modernization program calls for the future expenditure of 800 million dollars alone for a new 2,640-mile railway network to open inland mineral and agricultural areas for further development.

Foreign investors from the United States and Europe are pouring untold more millions into the industrialization of the country. It has taken in more than 100,000 immigrants from Europe the last 10 years.

Caracas, the 388-year-old capital, is now one of the world's greatest boom cities. Fifty years ago milkmen herded cows through its ancient streets. Today they are jammed by thousands of new high-priced motor cars.

You reach the city from the nearby port along recently completed 11-mile highway that cost 11 million dollars, which Caracas

FUNERAL PARTY CRASHES

Bello Horizonte, Brazil (AP)

A chartered plane carrying a funeral party and a corpse crashed into a mountain Monday. Three mourners, the pilot and a dog were killed. There were no survivors.

"—However, the Door Is Still Open"



Bruce Bioassat

We can be pretty sure that the Communists have enough spies in this country to report a good deal of valuable information to their masters in Russia and China. But in one vital field these agents either do not report what they could easily detect, or their reports are not believed in Moscow and Peking.

That is the area of American intentions. Of course it is deliberate diplomatic policy to keep them guessing, if we can, as to some of our intentions. For example, how far we might go in helping Chiang Kai-shek defend various Nationalist-held islands close to the Red Chinese mainland.

But we are not trying to fool anybody as to our great intention to avoid war if it can be done without appeasement. We have no wish to invade Communist lands or any other, no aim to conquer a square inch of foreign soil.

Furthermore, we are among the most unwarlike peoples on the globe. We have never sought armed conflict but have always come to it slowly and reluctantly. That traditional pattern reflects not only high government policy but the national character.

All this any Communist can know with the most cursory study of America. How then does it come that Chinese Premier Chou En-lai can tell UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld, as he apparently has, that he fears the invasion of China's mainland?

Obviously, if any reports of our real attitudes and intentions are getting through, they are being rejected. It begins to seem as if

Fireball Crashes Home, Severely Burns Occupant

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

OF SECURITY OF FORMOSA AND ASKING CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR IT.

Republican leaders in the house and the senate have assured the President of their support for such authority as he seeks in the Formosa situation.

Democratic Chairman James Richards of the key house foreign affairs committee announces that he supports a LINE OF NO RETREAT IN THE FORMOSA AREA. He acknowledges that this would carry the risk of a shooting war. "We run a FAR GREATER RISK the other way."

That is to say: We are apparently leading up to a flat statement to the Chinese communists that if they attack Formosa IT WILL MEAN ALL OUT SHOOTING WAR.

Grim? Yes, it's grim. But in the lives of nations, as in the lives of individuals, there come times when one must either fight or RUN.

This looks like one of those times. We've drawn a line around Formosa and have told the red Chinese that if they cross it we'll fight. We're in the position of the small boy who draws a line in the dust with his toe and dares his opponent to come over it.

If the other boy comes over with his fist swinging and the boy who drew the line RUNS, he might as well move to another town.

If the commies cross the Formosa line and we run, we might as well keep running clear to our own shores. Our days of world leadership will be over—for if we back down at Formosa the commies will take it as a sign that we're afraid to fight and if they think we're afraid to fight there's nothing they won't do.

A showdown is always a grim and serious affair. It looks as if it is written into the showdown that communism is approaching at a gallop.

Meat Inspection Law Change Aim Of Bill At Salem

SALEM (AP) — The House Livestock Committee introduced a new state meat inspection bill Monday, as a substitute for Senate bill 35.

As a result, the Senate postponed its hearing on Senate bill 35. It had been scheduled for Feb. 3.

The new bill appropriates \$400,000 for the state inspection. About 133 slaughterhouses in Oregon now aren't inspected.

The bill was drafted by the Oregon Livestock and Meat Marketing Committee, which includes representatives of the livestock producers, packers, wholesalers, retailers, sales yards, commission firms, labor and consumers.

"When we have reached a point in this state that all slaughtering establishments are inspected from a sanitary standpoint, it will then be possible for any plant to request and receive federal grading of meat products," Rep. Robert J. Seward, Baker County, chairman of the House Livestock Committee, said.

The bill doesn't restrict the right of a farmer to slaughter meat animals for sale directly to the consumer.

W. R. May Purchasing Oregon Voter Magazine

PORTLAND (AP) — C. C. Chapman, who for almost 40 years has been publisher of the weekly magazine, the Oregon Voter, has announced that the publication is being acquired by Walter W. R. May of Portland.

Chapman, now 78, said he will "let go gradually" and that plans call for May to get "ultimate ownership."

May, publisher of the Oregon

Reader Opinions

Character Of Deceased War Vet Highly Praised

ELKTON — I just read an obituary in the evening paper: World War I Vet Dies at Vets Hospital, and so forth, with services to be held at Gane Mortuary and interment in the Canyonville Cemetery.

That's all. Well, what more information was known? What more could be said?

To this I can add, because I knew the little guy as no one else ever did, I think.

With his passing went one of the world's squarest guys. I never knew him to refuse a friend help and, believe me, when I say friend, I don't want to forget the plural "s" because his friends ran into the hundreds. The length of time I knew him, I never heard a man or woman say one word of fault against him. (He had them, but to know him was to turn your back on his faults.)

He was honest and square and had a firm belief that all men are in part good. He liked everyone for one virtue or another. He was raised on a ranch near Burns, Ore., until he was about 13, when he left the old home to make his way in the world, as many boys did in those days.

At an early age he started horse logging for himself, with two horses. After many hardships and heartaches, he rose to the peak of his career at White Salmon, Wash., was known as one of the biggest logging outfits in the country, with the most modern equipment. Many a young man will remember now, with outfits of their own, how they got encouragement from the boss, loans of money and time to pass on his well-earned knowledge to them. There are many friends around White Salmon that will grieve at his passing and remember his unselfishness to others, generosity and kindness.

He lived and died by a code unknown to many men, trusting, believing in mankind, living his life as he saw fit, blaming no one for his bad luck or misfortune. He liked men for what they were, not what they pretended to stand for.

No one fooled him, although some thought because he was so good natured, slow and easy-going, he missed a few tricks. But it was not so. He would smile and say, "Yes, I know, but maybe he will pay me back this time."

So went his life—a good fellow among fellows. Long we all will remember the careless way he shrugged off worries. While his religion didn't include church-going, he did believe, and did unto others as he would have them do unto him.

He knew a full life as few men do, to have been to the top, to know a job well done, make a small fortune and hundreds of friends.

So when we gather Tuesday to pay our last respects to a swell little guy who had so many friends and yet was so alone, I for one will say, "Dear God, make a special place in heaven for Merl Young. We all love him and we thank you for letting us know him, for knowing him has made a few of us better people. Dear God, we return to you Merl Young."

JEAN YOUNG
Box 566 Elkton, Ore.

City Enterprise from 1944 until its merger with the Banner-Courier in 1950, will take over the management of the Voter April 30. He will publish the 40th anniversary edition.

Freed Con Loses No Time Staging Orgy Of Crimes

DETROIT (AP) — Charles Virgil Wilson, 40, was discharged from Southern Michigan Prison last Friday after serving three years and eight months for breaking and entering.

Pillow Of Long-Dead Woman Conceals \$8,000

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — Police found Mrs. Katrina Gashy, 61, dead under her pillow. The money was in currency except for \$50 in gold.

Dr. Isaac C. Prevette, acting coroner, said Mrs. Gashy, a widow, had been dead at least a month. He said she apparently died of a heart ailment.

AUXILIARY DATE OUT WASHINGTON (AP) — The American Legion Auxiliary has received word from Mme. Chiang Kai-shek that she cannot address their annual conference this week because she is unable to leave Formosa now.

Monday he was charged with: A \$20,000 arson of a hardware store; theft of a suit and topcoat from a used car lot office; theft of a bottle of perfume from a drugstore; attempted burglary of a home. Police said all offenses occurred the night of his discharge. Wilson was traced by the distinctive bell imprint of prison shoes in the snow.

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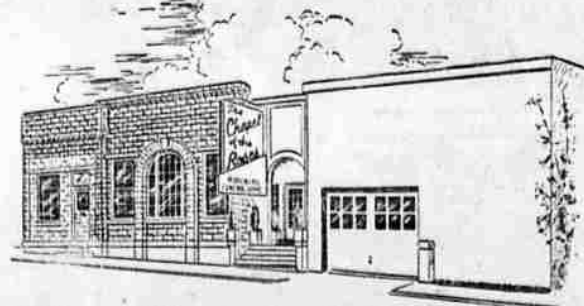
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