

The News-Review

Entered as second class matter May 7, 1936, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1917.

CHARLES V. STANTON, Editor and Manager

Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Represented by WEST-HOLLIDAY CO., INC., office in New York, Chicago.

Published Daily Except Sunday by the News-Review Company, Inc.

San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Denver.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$12.00; six months, \$6.50; three months, \$3.75. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$15.00; six months, \$8.00; three months, \$4.50.

By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$12.00 (in advance), less than one year, per month, \$1.25.

BRAVE LITTLE TREE

Charles V. Stanton

W. L. (Chris) Christensen, the photographer who makes our society department feature page pictures each week, seldom is caught without his camera. But, while on a sightseeing tour around the flooded areas of the county, he left his camera at home, and is bemoaning the fact he missed an exceptional "shot."

He watched a family being evacuated from a home menaced by flood water. The river had almost completely surrounded the house. A truck was backed up to the door and was being loaded with household goods. It was in the middle of the night. The rain was descending in torrents, as the apprehensive parents and children prepared to move out of the threatened building.

The only illumination came from a gaily lighted Christmas tree standing bravely in the window, spreading its merry gleam over the tragic scene.

How symbolic of Christmas! No matter what tragedy may effect the world, no matter what may be our economic, political or social problems, Christmas always brings a gleam of light into the world. Throughout the centuries since the angelic chorus brought the message of peace and good will to men, Christmas has been celebrated despite war, pestilence and famine.

The brave little Christmas tree, shedding its light of hope over the scene of family tragedy, was but a symbol of the greater and broader message of hope which spreads throughout the whole world at this season of the year.

WATER RESOURCES STUDY ORDERED

It is good news to Douglas County that the Oregon Water Resources Board is to initiate its program of river basin studies on the Umpqua system.

Certainly we are proving the need for the study. We are particularly fortunate in having set up recording equipment at sufficient spots throughout the county and are thus in a position to furnish the state board with some most valuable data on flood conditions. All who have been instrumental in initiating the study at the county level are to be congratulated. In fact, it is because Douglas County has been gathering water information for the past 18 months, that this river basin was chosen by the board as the place to begin its difficult task.

The floods experienced in recent years doubtless will make us impatient for construction of control devices. We should not, however, expect too early results.

Water studies are relatively new. The state board must originate a program with but little precedent to serve as a guide. It must gather data on water volume under all weather conditions. It must evaluate water flow for its respective uses. It must study ways and means of storing water in wet seasons for release in dry months. These are only a few of the problems which must be given careful study before any sort of action can be taken. Even after studies are sufficiently advanced to permit decisions, methods of financing needed improvements and construction must be worked out, and will take more time.

The board will need a great deal of local cooperation. The county court has indicated its intention of appointing committees to join in the continuing county surveys and to aid the state board in every possible way. But the work also will need the assistance of many individuals. It is to be hoped that every resident who can help in the program will cheerfully perform any services which may be requested.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—Cutting down the number of wars in the world has been a pesky problem to the United Nations for 10 troubled years.

Now it faces a new crisis—how to cut down on the number of its own cocktail parties.

Here really bold action is called for. Why doesn't the U.N. forget about abolishing war for one session and put down as the main task on its agenda the problem of outlawing all cocktail parties everywhere?

This could turn out to be a real positive step toward peace, universal brotherhood and the long-term improvement of human welfare.

The growing nuisance of too many cocktail parties at the U.N. was pointed out by Jose Mara of Chile. As president of the 10th General Assembly, he had to attend as many as three or four in a day. Every fresh international tension seems to produce a torrent of cocktail parties, which in diplomatic parlance are known as "receptions."

"You have to drink the same Scotch or the same manhattans and eat the same shrimps and talk to the self-same people," said Mara. His description of this type of social function may well go down as the greatest understatement in the history of diplomacy.

The average cocktail party isn't a party at all. It is an exercise in group self-punishment. It is a social battlefield, where women drink from a poisoned well while they build verbal Towers of Babel in a wilderness fog of smoke that would strangle a cleaning Eskimo in 20 minutes.

The cocktail party isn't a feature of modern living; it is a factor in modern dying. Anyone who has ever stood upright at a cocktail party (and who ever gets to sit down at one) can never forget the sinking feeling in his arches, the popping out of new varicose veins, the slow numbness as of death creeping over him.

The total impact of this form of torture on mankind has never been measured, but it must be appalling. "Cocktail party fatigue" and "cocktail party fatigue" are well known medical diseases now, and claim more victims than Virus "X". Although it is little more than a century old, the Martini, the most dangerous instrument at any cocktail party, certainly has mowed down more people than the falling gun.

The origin of the cocktail party has never been authoritatively established. Legend has it that it was invented early in the 12th century by a Minsk caviar manufacturer named Ivan Petrovovich in an attempt to unload an over-supply of fresh eggs. The Russians, who are quick to claim every other invention, denounce this story as a capitalist canard. But it will be noted they still serve fish eggs at most elite cocktail parties.

Even the Devil has friends, so it goes without saying that cocktail parties have their defenders. They claim these affairs relieve social tension. The truth is they stir up new tensions. If you throw one cocktail party to calm a tension, you have to hurl a second one to cure the new tensions that grew out of the first. So the evil chain grows.

Actually nothing really good can be said for cocktail parties. Nobody ever got sober at one. It is unlikely anybody ever made a lifelong friend at one. They're the world's poorest places to borrow money.

If the U.N. really does something to ban the cocktail party, it will earn a monument higher than Mt. Everest.

But what would become of all those fish eggs? Well, why not give them back to their parents?

TAKES ADVICE LITERALLY
COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho (AP)—Police jailed Frank A. Rydard, 26, on a grand larceny charge Thursday and explained he took their advice too literally.

Police Chief Arnold Engen said Rydard was advised Wednesday night to take a cab home from town if he had been drinking. Engen said he did, but the cab driver wasn't along.

Jingle, Jingle, Jingle



Rep. Molohon Proposes Raising Tax Incentive Goal To Get More Freight Cars

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rep. Molohon (D-W.Va.), noting that the railroads have stepped up their buying of new freight cars, said Friday the government could well raise its tax incentive goal.

Molohon heads a House government operations subcommittee which last July looked into reports that, despite the Office of Defense Mobilization's program for fast tax writeoffs on freight cars, the freight car fleet was shrinking.

He said in an interview that the railroads' applications for rapid tax amortization certificates for new freight cars have climbed sharply during the last few months to pass the ODM's goal of 436,000 cars.

The applications total now stands at about 460,000, and Molohon said it may exceed 500,000 before the Dec. 31 deadline on requests for the tax help.

"I have talked with defense mobilization planning about raising the goal," he said. "Fleming was not unsympathetic."

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (AP)—Maj. Gen. Samuel D. Sturgis Jr., chief of the Army Corps of Engineers, has issued new orders that on small flood-control projects, a share of the costs will hereafter be assessed against local beneficiaries.

In the past, Corps of Engineers has borne the whole cost. The change in policy will be of interest to everyone who wants the government to do something about a creek that rumpages.

The plan follows policy set for the Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service under the Hope-Aiken small watershed act of 1954.

It indicates that after years of bureaucratic red tape, the government has made a start toward getting a unified water policy.

WHEN THE SECOND ANNUAL Watershed Conference of 25 national conservation organizations met in Washington a few days ago, there was one principal belyache.

That concerned too much variation in assessing the local cost share.

Flood-prone city folk got their flood prevention works from Army Engineers free. Upstream farmers who got their work done by Soil Conservation Service had to pay a share of the costs.

In the backs of their minds, of course, was the idea that the federal government ought to pay all the costs.

It would take an amendment to the Hope-Aiken Act to put this into effect. That isn't likely now. This isn't the philosophy of the Eisenhower administration. It believes in larger local participation for all public works.

THIS IS THE WAY the Hope-Aiken Act works now. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service is authorized to receive applications from local watershed organizations for upstream flood control and reservoir development.

SCS surveys the basin. It determines first if benefits would exceed costs. Then it determines how much of the cost can be borne by local beneficiaries. SCS next makes an agreement with them on this basis; if the project is feasible.

SCS then submits a work plan to Congress. If Congress doesn't turn it down in 60 days, the project stands approved. Local authorities can then let contracts, after raising their share of the costs.

To date, 430 of these applications have been received from drainage districts and watershed associations in 42 states. One hundred and twenty-three have been approved. SCS will have 23 work plans ready for submission to Congress in January. Another 23 will be ready before Congress adjourns.

Daily Bible Reading

Message By
Roseburg Ministerial
Association

TODAY'S TEXT:
St. Luke 2: 8-20

Unto you that fear My name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings.—Malachi 4: 2.

As we meditate on the coming of the Son of Righteousness, with healing in His wings, to the world of which Bethlehem was at that hour the object of Heaven's gaze, we see a dark world in which bitterness and hatred and rivalry were rampant.

The clouds of unbelief hung low. Mists of misunderstanding blotted out the beauty of things. Men needed a gospel of hope if the possibilities of life at its best were to unfold.

Christmas has helped to pour around the souls of men the light of love, encircling them like a luminous atmosphere. Like the sun, it has made manifest hidden things and revealed them in a manner never known before.

It has diffused into deep valleys of the spirit the calm light of peace, meekness and gentleness; and it has beautified the whole life of Man with a heavenly gladness that gives to live "a joy unspeakable and full of glory."

MAJOR FRED A. DORIN
The Salvation Army

452,100 Persons Working In Non-Farm Employment

SALEM (AP)—The Oregon Unemployment Compensation Commission estimated Thursday that 472,100 persons were working in non-farm jobs in Oregon in November. That was 2,900 more than in November, 1954, but was 13,700 fewer than in October.

There were 61,800 working in sawmills and logging outfits. This total was 2,900 under a year ago, and the lowest since last April.

Christmas Letter Mail Running 6 Per Cent Higher

WASHINGTON (AP)—Postmaster General Summerfield said Friday reports from 25 large post offices show Christmas letter mail is running about 6 per cent above last year.

Adding that parcel post volume is up some 9 per cent, Summerfield said the trend is in line with advance department estimates that holiday mail volume will reach an all-time peak this year.

Summerfield declared the department is handling the annual avalanche "more smoothly than ever before, principally because public cooperation in mailing early is better than ever before."

A department statement said "The 1953 and 1954 record of having no Christmas mail stacked up in post offices undelivered on Christmas Day anywhere in America is expected to be repeated this year."

SPELLMAN VISITS CAMP

Santai, Japan (AP)—Francis Cardinal Spellman, 67-year-old Catholic archbishop of New York, spent five hours at Camp Santai, Santa Fe, N.M., Thursday visiting a hospital named after him and bringing Christmas blessings to Catholics and U.S. military personnel in the area.

SPECIAL SESSION

MOSCOW (AP)—In verse front page statements, Pravda and Izvestia announced Thursday the special session of the Supreme Soviet, the Soviet Union's parliament, would open Dec. 26.

2 Missionaries Relate Ordeal In Reds' Hands

CLARK AIR FORCE BASE, P.I. (AP)—A five-year ordeal of "abominable treatment" at the hands of the Chinese Communists, including torture, was described by American missionaries Dr. Homer V. Bradshaw Thursday.

"They handcuffed me, twisted my wrists and forced me to do strenuous physical exercise," Bradshaw told a press conference.

Bradshaw, 54, and his wife, about the same age, of Pittsburgh, Pa., arrived Wednesday from Hong Kong after five years of imprisonment by the Chinese Reds.

Bradshaw spoke from a wheelchair. He appeared nervous and thin. "I lost about 43 pounds," he said. His wife was not present. U. S. Air Force doctors said "she is still uncertain of her surroundings and there are mental implications."

They said Mrs. Bradshaw is suffering from malnutrition than her husband. She was kept under house arrest while her husband was imprisoned.

Asked what fortified his spirit during the ordeal, Bradshaw replied, "as a missionary, I was in the hand of the Almighty."

Air Force physicians said the Bradshaws probably will stay at the base hospital at least two weeks before they are able to fly home.

CHARGES TRESSPASS

GAZA (AP)—Egypt Thursday sounded new charges of trespassing by Israeli aircraft. A military spokesman said an Israeli plane flew over the town of Gaza Wednesday afternoon and another circled the Gaza strip area early Thursday. He said heavy anti-aircraft fire drove off the planes. Egypt protested to the U.N. Mixed Armistice Commission.

Union Official Convicted Of Filing False Affidavit

DENVER (AP)—Maurice E. Travis, 45-year-old union official, was convicted Wednesday night of filing false non-Communist affidavits with the National Labor Relations Board in 1951 and 1952.

A six-man, six-woman U. S. district court jury convicted him on all four counts of a Colorado grand jury indictment which resulted in his arrest Oct. 28, 1954.



IF YOUR PAPER HAS NOT ARRIVED BY 6:15 P.M. DIAL 2-2631



Our jolly good wishes go out to all our friends and neighbors for this season of good will and cheer!

FAMILY FINANCE CORP.
729 S. E. Washington



A Christmas Greeting to Our Wonderful Community

...We'd like to shake the hand of every one of you. We'd like to wish you all a personal Merry Christmas. But, please take the thought for the act and accept our sincere good wishes for Health, Happiness and Prosperity now and always!

PAL MOTORS INC.

Season's Greetings



MARIETTA POWERS



L. L. POWERS



Cynthia Ann Powers



The Chapel of the Roses

ROSEBURG FUNERAL HOME
FUNERALS
Oak and Kane St.

Phone ORchard 3-4455
Roseburg, Oregon



Mary Judith Powers