

Mildred Wilson Spies . . .

Robert Clever, '41

He's 5 feet 4½ inches of high explosive—at least that's probably the opinion that the little yellow men of Nippon received when Bombardier Lt. Bob Clever, '41, paid them a visit last spring.

Zooming over Japan in a bomber is quite a change from splashing up a set of decorations for Campbell club house dances or talking it over with the boys around the fire. An art major, Clever was prominent around the art school and added to his versatility by developing a great love for geology. He was even made a member of Condon club, geology honorary, a rather rare honor for an art major.

Took CPT

Dark wiry hair and a face always eager to break into a wide-mouthed grin characterized Oregon's bombing hero. On the campus from 1938 to 1941 Bob heard the call of the air corps before graduation and left for primary training—He had a taste of flying through Civilian Pilot Training while in school—found it to his liking and decided to make it his diet for the duration.

Bob described his sensations while a member of Brig. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle's "egg laying" squadron, in the September issue of Old Oregon—"I was too busy to watch my bombs all the way down, but the last time I saw them they were headed right and the tail gunner saw them hit squarely on the target." He added that when the plane turned to leave he saw huge clouds of smoke coming from the plant.

Not for Fun

"I don't think they were just blowing off that much smoke to welcome us."

As an interesting sidelight Clever revealed that one of the planes in the expedition carried the inscription, "I don't want to set the world on fire; I just want to start a flame in Tokyo's heart." All the bombs were autographed, "Best Wishes, Hirohito."

Clever's special target was a huge steel mill in South Tokyo—and he put his crimp in Hirohito steel production plans through an inexpensive bombsight which could be bought anywhere for 20 cents." He explained that the famous Norden bombsights were removed in case any of the planes should fall into the hands of the Japanese.

Plastered Mills

"It made no difference. The steel mills still looked the same and we plastered them up good," Bob said.

He's always taken a lot of kidding because of his short stature—but does it with supreme good nature. Usually laughing, he was reported to be the clown of the Tokyo trip.

"They said that I was so short everyone would mistake me for a Jap if we were shot down. That was going pretty far, but I can take it."

But the important thing Lieutenant Robert S. Clever proved last spring—along with all the other American flyers—was that they could also dish it out.

SCENE AT
RANDOM

By BERNIECE DAVIDSON

'Axe-travaganza'

Students at the University of California are presenting an Axe-travaganza on their Homecoming program. Each class will enter an act in the Big Ten vaudeville show and all proceeds will go to buy war bonds.

—The Daily Californian.

Frenzied Freshman

A freshman girl at the University of Louisiana afraid she would miss her breakfast, rolled up her pajama pants, pulled on a skirt and dashed down to the dorm dining room where the Community War Chest committee was also breakfasting. No one discovered her secret until she rose to go. There before the assembled faculty members, the pajama pants had sneaked down around her ankles.

—The Reveille.

Needed Support

The student Union at the University of Minnesota solves problems for students who have been too busy getting an education to keep up with their social life.

Instructions are offered in all forms of dancing and games. Those interested in music may hear classical and light operatic records.

—The Minnesota Daily.

Corsages Out

The Student-Faculty association at the University of Pittsburgh ruled corsages out at any University event. Corsages may be sent to coeds but they will be lifted at the gate of any campus dance or party and returned after the affair is over.

—Pitt News



—Courtesy Old Oregon

FATHER GREET'S SON . . .

. . . Dad C. C. Clever, Albina Engine & Machine Works, Portland, greets Son Robert Clever, '41, on the latter's return from the world-stirring raid on Tokyo. Clever was bombardier on the Doolittle trip to Tokyo, dropped bombs that set Japan's capital on fire, lit new flames in Allied nation hopes.

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