

January Disasters Bring Quick Red Cross Action

Destructive floods and tornadoes beginning in early January were grim reminders that more Americans died in home-front accidents and disasters during World War II than as war casualties.

By mid-month the siege, brought on unseasonably early by warm weather and heavy rains, had claimed 54 dead and upwards of 150 hospitalized, records indicate. Thousands of families in rural areas of 11 midwestern and southern states were affected.

Red Cross chapter workers who last year helped their communities through 260 disasters have again worked 'round the clock. Assisting them have been doctors, nurses, and others rushed by the Red Cross to stricken areas. Surveys for the re-furnishing, rebuilding, and repairing of damaged or destroyed homes, barns, and other buildings began immediately. Rehabilitation will be completed in March. Undoubtedly new disasters will strike during the spring months and will keep the organization working at top speed in this humanitarian parade which never ends.

In providing food, clothing, shelter, medical and nursing care, varying problems confront the Red Cross, particularly in rural sections.

In flooded Mississippi valley areas, Red Cross has obtained a priority release of house trailers to supplement tents used in sheltering farmers rescued from flooded areas. When evacuation of farm families and livestock has been necessary, coast guard and navy boats have assisted. Recent coal shortages in disaster areas were relieved when Red Cross action resulted in diversion of fuel to critical sections.

An hour after surveys have been completed, the Red Cross has obtained priority release of lumber and other building materials. Included has been screen wire to help prevent the spread of disease in malaria affected areas.

In floods and hurricanes, local Red Cross disaster units, through advance weather bureau advisories, have warned residents in time for safe evacuation; in remote sections, they have effected rescues. In all disasters, tornadoes, fires, floods, hurricanes, train wrecks, they have quickly sought out injured, given first aid, and arranged hospital care. Hundreds of thousands of homeless have been sheltered, clothed, and fed.

In Paterson, New Jersey, a new chapter disaster chairman successfully tackled problems of the worst flood in that city's history. Two days after a Red Cross disaster conference in Montgomery, Alabama, a tornado ripped through the city. Outstanding care given the injured wrote a bright page in the year's disaster history.

In states where polio outbreaks occurred, Red Cross chapter volunteers hurriedly improvised hospital articles. In Salt Lake City, Disaster Service supplied face masks, children's nightgowns, hospital shirts, surgical gowns for nurses, blankets, and sheets. When flannelette could not be found for hot packs, Red Cross supplied 1,000 diapers for the purpose.

But whether disaster or any of many other Red Cross services, all are available to people in rural communities no less than in large cities. Home nursing, farm accident prevention, assistance to families of men in uniform and to veterans—these services continue year-in, year-out. During March the Red Cross is appealing for \$100,000,000. It needs every bit of that amount to meet obligations to the armed forces and civilian population.

"We all have a share in the American Red Cross," said Basil O'Connor, Red Cross Chairman, when announcing the appeal. "Let's all maintain that share by contributing generously to the 1946 Fund Campaign and keeping our Red Cross society the strongest in the world."

Sheridan Eagles Lodge Instituted; Officers Named

With national and state officers in attendance, Phil Sheridan aerie was instituted as the newest unit of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in the Northwest at the Legion hall in Sheridan last Friday night.

Deputy Grand Worthy President E. J. Cyr instituted the aerie and the Portland aerie officers and drill team exemplified the ritual for the new members. Phil Sheridan aerie was instituted with a charter list of 146 members. Eugene Marsh, speaker of the House of Representatives, was the speaker of the evening.

Carl Love of Portland reported that delegations from Salem, McMinnville, Portland, Gresham, Newberg, Astoria, Albany, Eugene, Tillamook and Portland were present several hundred strong. The following officers were selected to head the new aerie:

Past Worthy President, Guy Seth; worthy president, Luther P. Hyder; vice president, John Tyner; chaplain, Paul Wardell; conductor, Earl Suhs; secretary, Morris DesVoignes; treasurer, John Taylor; inner guard, J. G. Strickler; outer guard, Marvin Calkins, and trustees, Lester Plummer, Walter Matusch and John DeJong. Several Willamina residents were appointed to standing committees.

The first regular meeting of the Phil Sheridan aerie will be held in the IOOF hall next Friday night at 8 p.m., March 22. The regular officers will preside, and all members are urged to attend this first business meeting. After this meeting the regular meetings will be held on Thursday nights in the same hall.

One of the first matters of business conducted by the new aerie was to pass the necessary motions to authorize the formation of a ladies' auxiliary immediately upon the expiration of the required 20-day waiting period. The ladies served lunch and refreshments to several hundred visitors and the members of the local aerie after the installation.

Your Red Cross watches over the comfort of hospitalized veterans and service people everywhere. Help put its 1946 Fund Campaign over. Give generously!



American Red Cross Aids Wounded and Able-bodied

Not long ago to a Red Cross field director with an outfit on maneuvers flashed a message that the mother of a man in his unit was critically ill, and the man was needed at home immediately.

With this message from the soldier's Red Cross chapter verifying the illness, the field director called on the commanding officer who arranged an emergency furlough. While a courier sped up the line to fetch the soldier, the Red Cross man was busy arranging transportation.

Within a few hours the boy was at the Red Cross field office where furlough papers and a ticket awaited him. The field director drove him to the airport, and the boy arrived home in time—not to see his mother die, but to save her life with a blood transfusion.

Today, six months after V-J Day, some 17,000 Red Cross workers are still with the GIs at home and abroad. Hundreds of clubs and rest homes overseas are in operation where men meet on leave, get home-cooked food, and that prime American favorite—doughnuts and coffee. Music and entertainment, books, magazines, and home-town newspapers, lounge and writing rooms—all are popular. For men staying overnight there are comfortable beds, clean sheets, and hot showers.

More important than Red Cross services to the able-bodied are those for the wounded and ill. In army and navy hospitals the country over, professional and volunteer Red Cross workers serve in many ways.

To the hospitalized a financial or family problem may prey upon the mind and dull the will to recovery. Under guidance of Red Cross medical social workers many a problem is dissolved, and difficult obstacles are smoothed, while programs directed by trained recreation workers help patients forget their troubles. Red Cross volunteers supplement these workers with every conceivable service. For example, there was the blinded soldier whose face was horribly scarred, who was expecting a visit from

his wife and five-year-old daughter. It would be the first meeting in two years, he told the Red Cross girl who was teaching him rummy with Braille cards.

"My little girl knows I'm blind and she's planning how she'll do things for me," he said.

But what she did not know, what had been kept from him so that it might not retard his readjustment, was the way he was scarred and disfigured.

The Red Cross girl caught her breath. "That's fine," she said. "I'll meet them at the train."

Her heart sank upon seeing the tiny girl. It would be a job to prepare her for the shock, to make sure she did not let her father suspect there was anything wrong.

Gently she told the child about her daddy's face, how it would get better, how much he loved her, and that she mustn't be afraid. Then, with a prayer in her heart, she led mother and child to the blinded soldier.

The crucial moment had come. Now, upon the actions of a little girl, the future of this family would depend. For a moment the tot stood in the doorway, looking at her father across the room. Then, without hesitation, came the patter of little feet, and she threw her arms around her father's neck. "Daddy," she cried, "Daddy, it's me—we're so glad to have you back!"

A simple service, yes. But it determined the happiness of three people. Without the understanding heart, and the many who daily give of their minds and souls, the adjustment of thousands of servicemen might be seriously retarded.

The American Red Cross needs \$100,000,000 to carry on during the next fiscal year. That sum is small when stacked against the heartaches stilled, suffering eased, misery relieved, new hope infused—day in, day out—because of Red Cross ministrations.

Because farm families have a big stake in the Red Cross they consistently support the organization. The Red Cross is confident that families in agricultural areas, the backbone of the nation, will generously support the 1946 Fund Campaign.

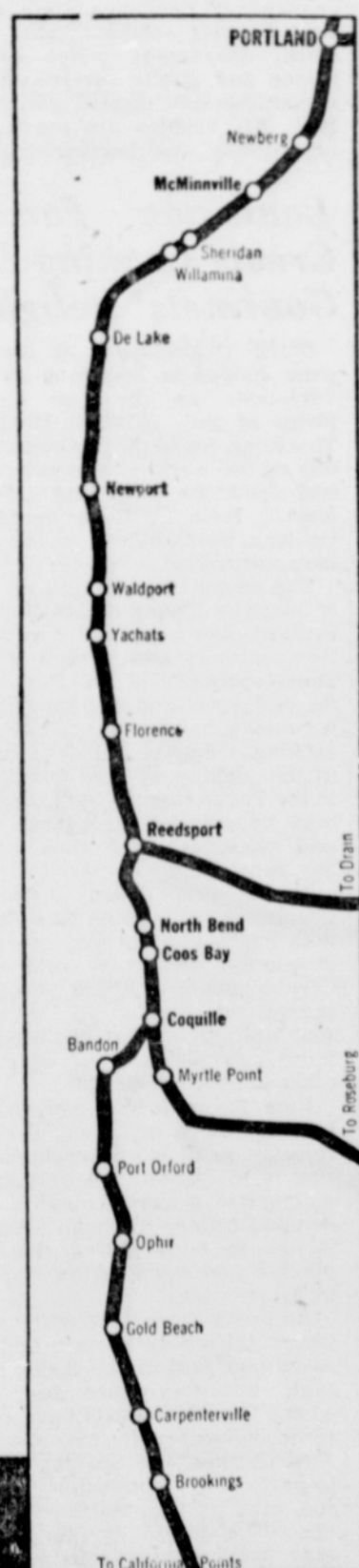
LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Early Monday breakfast guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nelson were Mr. and Mrs. Arvid Vicklund of Anacortes, Wash., and Mrs. Wendia Svann of Olympia, and Mrs. Gust Dahl.

Mrs. Milton LeRoy and Mrs. J. M. Olson spent Monday in McMinnville on business.

Mrs. Tod Walker and Mrs. Fisher of Salem stopped for a short visit last Thursday with the R. L. Norris family on their way to the Pete Fisher home in Grand Ronde.

Mr. and Mrs. Felix Revell of Eugene were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Rurik Hendrickson.



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THE SMART FAMILY



The other day John Smart waited for me in the courtroom before going to lunch together. It was a divorce trial. John asked me a pungent question. "Judge," says John while we were having lunch, "have you ever had a milk shake bob up in divorce proceedings?" "No, can't say that I've ever heard of milk shakes or any other soft drink appearing in court—but there's plenty of times that alcoholic beverages have appeared as a cause that leads to broken-up families—and many times to broken-up youngsters... who are indeed the innocent victims of parental delinquency."

THE SMART FAMILY NEITHER NEEDS NOR DESIRES ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES for FUN

Factual Research Committee, A.L.L.O.