

Seventy Clan Members Meet

Annual Benton-Grinde Observance Held at Silverton

SILVERTON—Seventy members and friends of the Benton-Grinde clan gathered for their annual New Year's observance in the Knights of Pythias hall Monday. A dinner was held at 1:30, followed by a business meeting and a program. Dancing and supper concluded the day's events.

Officers retained were president, G. B. Benton; vice-presidents, Minnie Odell of Portland and Caroline Best of Silverton; secretary, Nada Grinde of Silverton; treasurer, Nels Langev of Silverton.

Honored as being the oldest clan member present was Rudd Benton, with the small son of Mr. and Mrs. Rolfe Benton, Wade Satran, as the youngest.

Appearing on the program were G. B. Benton in an address of welcome; readings by Julian Stewart, Lois Porter, Mary McCall, Jackie Stewart; vocal solos, Jennie Grogan, Mrs. Ray Davis, Gwendolyn Fry; vocal duets, Pat and Phyllis Grogan, Earl and Meri Grogan; piano solo, Jean Adams; instrumental duet, Madeline and Maxine Best; Norwegian songs sung by the Grinde sisters; violin solo, Denzel Legard, accompanied by Mrs. Alvin Legard.

A moment of silence honored the late Mrs. Mary Simonson of Coleman, SD, who died during the past two weeks. She was the last of the living Benton sisters.

Greetings were read from Lloyd Fry of Grants Pass and Joe Odell of Sacramento.

Special greetings were sent to Mrs. Rudd Benton, who has been ill and who was one of the instigators of the Benton-Grinde clan reunions which were begun over 15 years ago.

England Drafts 2,000,000 More

New Registration Order Signed by King George VI

LONDON, Jan. 1.—(AP)—King George VI tonight signed a proclamation providing for registration of approximately two million more Britons for military service. The action, taken through the privy council, means that military registration for service for Great Britain will involve men from the ages of 19 through 27.

Men of 29, 21 and 22 were affected by previous conscription orders.

Tonight's order will make a total of 2,500,000 men technically under arms.

Formal call-ups for the various new age groups will be spaced over some months, with the 23-year-olds being mobilized first, perhaps on March 1.

The speed with which the new age groups will be called up will be governed by developments. There have been strong indications that British military leaders expect sharply intensified warfare in 1940.

Sir Thomas Phillips, secretary to the labor ministry, said: "I think it is pretty certain that all new classes will have been called to the colors by the end of 1940."

Tonight's decree was one of a series of events which gave the first day of 1940 grim significance.

Two German warplanes raided a naval anchorage in the Shetland Islands. British sources said that one apparently was shot down.

In another aerial battle over the North Sea a British plane claimed to have shot down a second German aircraft.

Family Dinner Given, Keizer

KEIZER—Six families gathered at a New Year's dinner reunion at the country home of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Finn in the Keizer district.

Twenty-eight were present: Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Robins and children, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Robins and children, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Robins and children, Mrs. Delma Finn, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Robins of Jefferson, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Greene, Mrs. C. L. Reid and son of Willamina and the hosts and children.

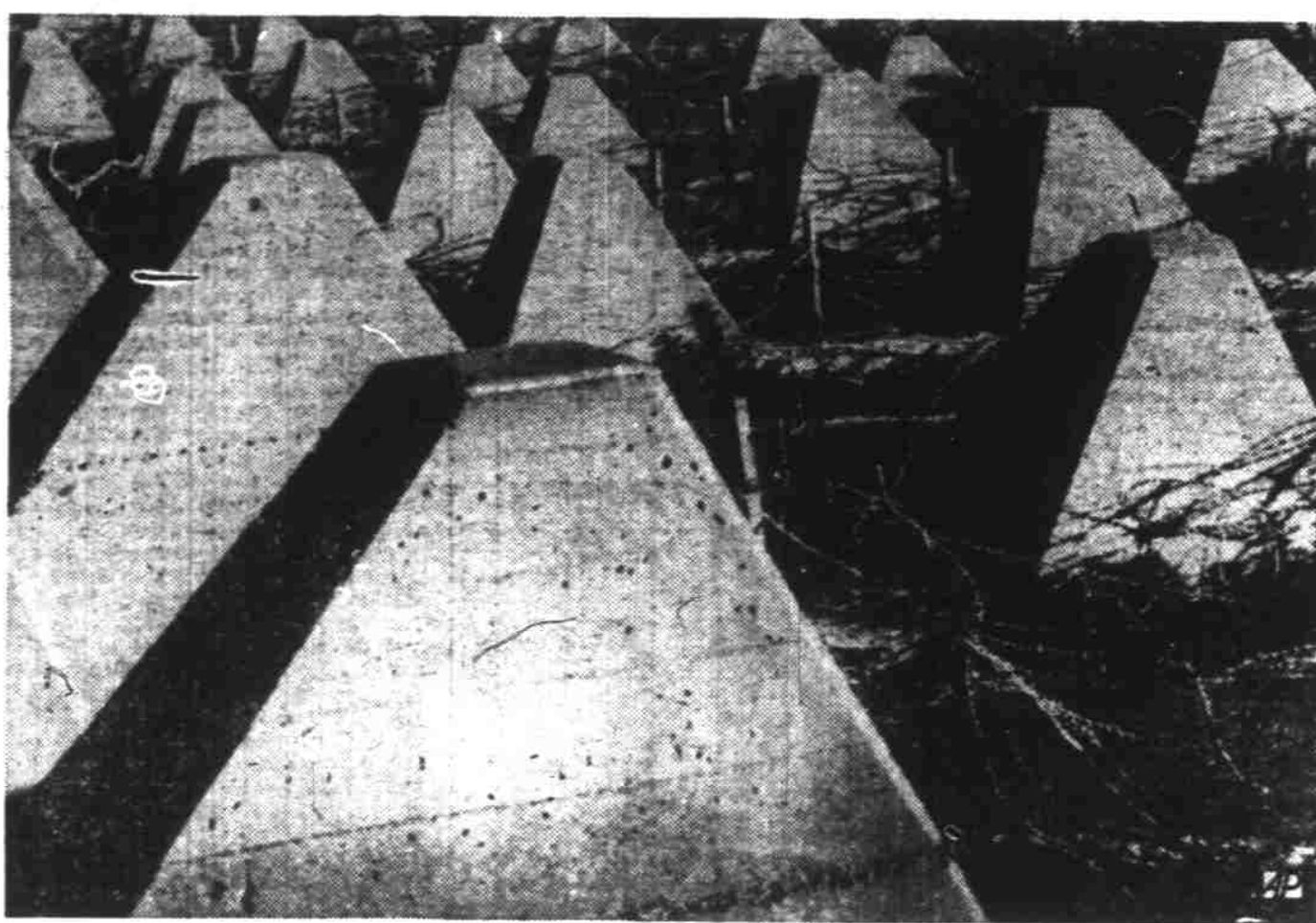
Church Services Precede Hilarity

MT. ANGEL—The usual hilarious New Year's parties in Mt. Angel were predated by a New Year's eve church service in St. Mary's church.

The service was conducted by Father Alcuin and consisted of special prayers of thanksgiving and of supplication for continued blessings in the year to come and benediction.

At the close the Te Deum was sung by the choir and congregation.

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NO THANKS FOR TANKS—With military activity along the western front stalemated by weather and by the apparent respect each high army command has for his enemy's fortifications, German sources distribute this picture of their concrete tank traps, designed "to protect the German frontier from sudden attacks." Note barbed wire interlacings.



THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER—Their hearts are in the greeting Sylvia (left) and Ronald, three-year-old twins give their father, Pvt. Harry Neil of the Essex Scottish regiment at Windsor, Ontario. Under heavy convoy, Canada has already sent one contingent of soldiers to Britain, is training more. Some 100 Americans were in this first batch.



WILLING AND WELDING—Because she thinks the demand for skilled airplane welders is bound to increase, Mrs. Mollie Sifton (above) studies welding at night in St. Louis. She's a 29-year-old widow with two children and is determined to continue until she can pass stiff government tests. With her family, a WPA job by days and study by nights, she keeps busy.

Monmouth Women Club Hostesses

MONMOUTH—Mrs. H. E. Guthrie and Mrs. Marian Fresh were hostesses Wednesday afternoon for the Social Hour club's annual Christmas party, at the Fresh home.

Christmas carols were sung by a group of school girls. Kenneth Mulkey, Portland, appeared in a dramatic reading. A gift exchange around a beautifully decorated tree was featured.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Derby have received word of the death of a sister-in-law, Mrs. Vernon Derby, of Jerome, Idaho, which occurred Christmas day.

Mrs. Harry Hagmeier entertained a group of friends and neighbors informally Thursday afternoon at her home on East Main street.

Two Babies Born At Silverton

SILVERTON—Two babies born late this week missed being the Silverton New Year's baby. A daughter was born Thursday at the Silverton hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Berg of Mt. Angel. A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Darcy Pittman of Molalla at the Silverton hospital Friday.

Frank Winters underwent a major operation at the hospital Friday while Mrs. R. J. Berning of Mt. Angel and Mrs. Kenneth Schinke both received medical care at the hospital Friday.

Visit at Silverton

SILVERTON—Mrs. Robert J. Burkhart and two sons, Bob and Bill of Albany are guests for the week of Mrs. Burkhart's uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Powell.

Officers Elected By Stayton Club

STAYTON—Mrs. Tressa Van Nuy entertained the Three Links club at her home recently with a Christmas party.

The following new officers were elected for the coming year: president, Mrs. Marie Cole; vice president, Mrs. Eva Hilton; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Margaret Chamberlain.

Guests were Mrs. Jeanette Harold, Mrs. Esther Wood and Mrs. Charlotte Slayton.

Guests Present At Club Party

DAYTON—Seventeen members and two guests, Miss Pauline Rosner of Portland and Mrs. Ed Conyer of this locality, attended the annual Christmas party and exchange of gifts of the Peninsula Needle club Thursday, December 28, at the home of Mrs. Matt Senn.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Irene Senn with her daughter, Mrs. Paul Parker, assisting hostess.

Woodburn DAR Sponsors Four Tour Candidates

WOODBURN—Belle Passi chapter, the local unit of the Daughters of the American Revolution, is sponsoring four candidates for a trip to Washington in April. Each of the 48 DAR chapters in Oregon will sponsor one or more candidates, each candidate must be a high school girl, and from these one will be chosen to represent the state. The chosen one will be given a free trip to Washington. This is a part of the DAR's national program for good citizenship.

Russ Commander Gets High Honor

MOSCOW, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Russia's highest decoration, the Order of Lenin, was awarded today to General B. M. Shaposhnikov, chief of the army general staff, "for successful guidance of the operations of the red army," but the announcement made no mention of the campaign in Finland.

Tass, the official news agency, in publishing the award, did not specify what operations were meant.

Also rewarded by the supreme soviet were 48 commanders and political workers in various military organizations "for successful accomplishments of tasks assigned by the red army command in connection with operations of the red army." Lesser decorations went to 169 workers on construction projects.

Four Killed in Gas-Filled Room

PERTH AMBOY, N.J., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Four children ranging in age from one to ten years died in a holiday tragedy today when illuminating gas, seeping through their second floor flat, overcame a family of seven.

In critical condition at Perth Amboy general hospital were Mr. and Mrs. John Guile and their daughter, Nancy, 4. Guile is a trouble-shooter for the Perth Amboy Gas Light company.

Killed by the fumes were two girls and two boys: Theresa, 10; Joan, 7; Frank, 3, and John, 1.

Police Chief Frank Murray said his men found one jet open on a kitchen gas range. On the kitchen floor they found Guile's body. Apparently he had been awakened by the gas, Murray said, but collapsed before he could reach the range to shut off the flow.

Three Men Die in Mining Tragedy

CADOMIN, Alta., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Tragedy struck this little mining village, 180 miles west of Edmonton, Saturday night when a gas caught a group of miners in No. 5 panel of the Cadomin Coal company's mine, killing three men and causing injury to another.

The bodies of Jimmy Maddams, Jr., 28, John Burnside, 41 and Dan Sipnazz, 48, all trapped in the mine, were recovered. Six other miners escaped their fate but one of them, fire-boss Peter Nicholson suffered face and body lacerations and back injuries when he fell down a 150 foot coal chute, dragging Miner Hugh Hocherty who had been overcome by the gas. Docherty escaped injury and recovered from the gasing.

Lighthouse Keeper Lost; Boat Found

SEATTLE, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Coast guard airplanes and patrol boats failed today to find any trace of Edward Clements, Smith Island lighthouse keeper whose overturned skiff was found after he disappeared on a trip to Minor Island Friday night.

There was a gale blowing that night in the strait of Juan de Fuca. Smith Island is at the eastern end of the strait.

Wallace Reports Pine Rust Costly

Blister Causes Greatest Damage of Any Tree Diseases

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Secretary Wallace told congress in his annual report today white pine blister rust was causing more damage than any other forest tree disease.

He said the disease had been checked in the northeastern states but added "the battle to stop its advance through commercially important stands of western white pine and sugar pine has not yet been won."

The secretary said the department's bureau of entomology and plant quarantine, in cooperation with the forest service, had extended initial treatment to 2,288,251 acres of federal lands in national forests but added that three were more than 1,500,000 acres in national forests in parts of five western states which still are in urgent need of treatment.

From 1931 to 1935, Wallace said white pine beetles in Oregon and Washington killed nearly as much Ponderosa pine as was cut and 15 times the quantity destroyed by fire. Areas treated in all national forests because of insect attacks last year, he said, amounted to 624,937 acres.

The secretary said the department had been cooperating in the eradication of currant and gooseberry bushes on which the rust develops. Millions of such bushes, he said, had been eliminated in the vicinity of white pine stands. Spores of the disease, he continued, were carried long distances by the wind and during the last few years it had been found in Maryland, Virginia and the middle west. In the far west, he said, the infection had been found in the last few years in parts of valuable sugar pine areas of California.

Court Will Rule On Union Dispute

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—(AP)—The supreme court may rule tomorrow on the American Federation of Labor's protest against a national labor relations board decision giving the CIO exclusive bargaining rights for all Pacific coast longshoremen. Involved is one of the major conflicts between the rival labor organizations.

Contesting the board's action, the federation argued that the longshoremen of each individual employer should have been permitted to choose their representatives. Instead, the longshoremen of the entire west coast were grouped into one voting unit.

The federation's suit was dismissed by the United States court of appeals for the District of Columbia. It held that it had power to pass only upon "final orders" of the labor board and that the certification of the CIO was not a final order.

In reply, the federation asserted that the effect of the certification was "final" because its west coast locals were "being disrupted" and their membership "was being destroyed."

Wallace Explains Quota Difficulty

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Pressure from various groups seeking to increase the value of their stocks of sugar has constituted one of the difficulties in administration of federal sugar laws, Secretary Wallace told President Roosevelt today in his annual report.

The past year, he said, emphasized that difficulty, but he added that congress "with a view to protecting the interests of all groups affected by the act" had limited the secretary's discretion in fixing consumer sugar requirements.

Over 12 Million Loaned on Homes

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—(AP)—More than 5000 home mortgages totaling \$12,009,000 were recorded in November, 1939, by all types of lenders in the district served by the Federal Home Loan bank of Portland, the Federal Home Loan bank board said today.

The recordings by states: Idaho 526 loans, \$1,269,000; Montana 559 loans, \$1,558,000; Oregon 1127 loans, \$2,361,000; Utah 577 loans, \$1,277,000; Washington 2184 loans, \$4,993,000; Wyoming 254 loans, \$668,000.

The greatest amount of home financing was done by savings and loan associations, with 1634 loans totaling \$3,522,000.

Return From Trip

TALBOT—Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Harris have returned from a trip which took them as far south as Oakland, Calif.

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OWL ON THE PROWL—Thanks to this wise old bird, an owl, there's one less rat in Lowell, Mass., and that glare he's giving the photographer might mean, "Just try and get it away from me." The cameraman was cowering a story at the board of health when commotion in a nearby tree attracted his interest. The catch was made somewhere in that area.

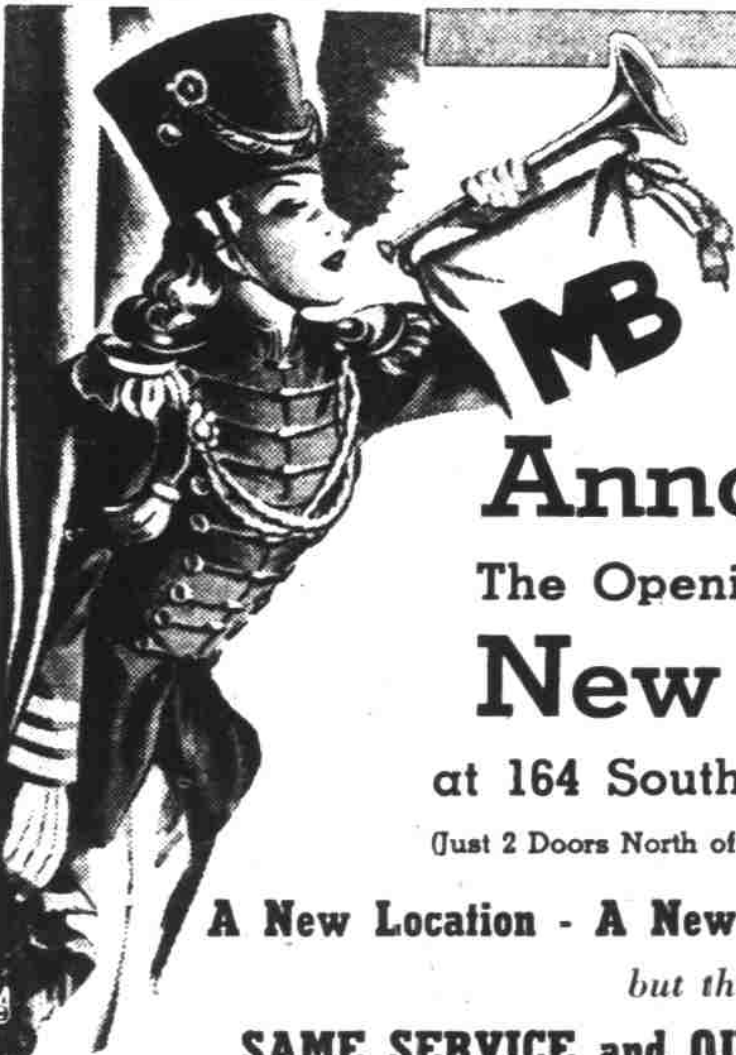


FARM AIDE—From Gainesville, Tex., comes Grover B. Hill (above), former ranchman recently named assistant secretary of agriculture. He succeeds Harry L. Brown, who resigned.

Ohio Solon Dies Eve of Session

JOHNSTOWN, O., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Rep. William A. Ashbrook (D-Ohio), serving his 10th term from the 17th Ohio district, died at his home tonight. He was 72.

The newspaper publisher-banker-farmer suffered a paralytic stroke last October in Washington but had improved until another stroke yesterday.



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