

# Service Men

Where They Are—What They Are Doing

Cpl. Charles E. Robert, a Willamette university student before enlisting in June, 1942, has been promoted to sergeant, according to word received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Roberts, 235 South 23rd street.

A nephew of Mrs. Zella James, housemother at Delta Phi sorority of Willamette university, was the youngest naval officer at the recent Casablanca conference, Mrs. James learned Saturday. He is Lt. Cmdr. Ralph James, 33, stationed at Washington, DC, who was one of seven naval officers who flew to Brazil, Dakar, Casablanca, Liberia and back. He graduated from the US naval academy at Annapolis in 1933.

David O. McKee, son of F. G. Kuriz, Salem route two, box six, has been promoted to sergeant by the commandant, Col. Frank D. Hackett, Kirkland field, Albuquerque, N.M. Prior to entering the service, Sgt. McKee was employed by the US engineers. He is now on duty at Kirkland field with a bombardier training squadron.

Pvt. Alfred Ricketts has been visiting his mother, Mrs. Nora Ricketts, while on furlough from the ordnance department at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Four Salem men in the US navy have reported for duty at the navy training station in Farragut, Ida. They are Melvin Russel Case, son of Mr. and Mrs. Irving Case, route six; Walker Stanmore Fitts, son of Mrs. Wilda S. Fitts, 254 North Church street; Richard William Maude, 872 North 20th street, and Harry Kent Wechter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wechter, route five.

Lt. Alan D. Edgell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Edgell, 1595 South Cottage street, is recovering from an appendectomy performed

at the Torney General hospital at Palm Springs, Calif. Lt. Edgell, who was previously stationed at Camp Haan, Calif., wrote to his parents last week, saying that he was "feeling fine".

JEFFERSON—Milton Libby, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Libby, inducted into the US army December 28, has recently been made a sergeant and transferred to Camp Adair in the headquarters battery field artillery, communications department.

His commander at Camp Adair was his former captain when Libby served three years in the army in the Hawaiian Islands. Mrs. Libby and son live in Jefferson.

P. M. Ricks has three sons in the service. Frank and Gerald are on active duty in the navy, the latter on a minesweeper; and Floyd is in training at Camp White at Medford.

MONMOUTH—Harry Parker, who formerly attended high school here, left his home in Corvallis Saturday for Santa Ana, Calif., where he will enter officers' candidate school for aviation cadets. He was graduated from Oregon State college in 1940 and has been employed in the AAA office at Corvallis.

He has two brothers also in the armed service. Charles Parker is a first lieutenant in army air corps, stationed at Mitchell, SD. Max Parker, who enlisted in the navy the week following Pearl Harbor, is on a supply boat in the Pacific.

## Wage, Hour Agent Helps

Charles H. Elrey, Oregon director of the wage, hour and public contracts division of the United States department of labor, has informed W. H. Baillie of the employment service that the experiment of assigning an inspector to service in the Salem vicinity has indicated an apparent real need for such activity.

According to Elrey, Roy Ferris, junior inspector of the wage and hour division, handled more than 30 interviews on his first assignment to the employment office last Friday. Most of the interviews were in connection with problems of employers concerning wage stabilization. Ferris assisted sev-

## Raver Slated At PEP Meet

PORTLAND, Feb. 20—(AP)—Dr. Paul J. Raver, Bonneville power administrator, Saturday was scheduled to testify Monday at the SEC hearing into the proposed reorganization of the Portland Electric Power company.

Cross-examination of Thomas W. Delzell, independent trustee, occupied most of Saturday's abbreviated session. He testified as to the complicated financial dealings of the early 1930s when control of the company changed hands several times.

Delzell said that in 1930 the company benefitted to the extent of approximately \$7,500,000 from the issuance of \$16,000,000 in 6 per cent debentures and that the balance "went down the rat-hole."

## Around Oregon

A Coos county grand jury dissolved George L. Maynard, 46-year-old retired marine corps major, of causing the death of John Kenneth Henninger, 27, in a scuffle at Coquille December 19. . . Grants Pass held funeral services for Cornelius Jasper Armstrong, 89, who claimed to have been the first white child born in the gold boom town of Jacksonville. . . Death also claimed Stephen A. Douglas Meek, 65, Cornelius farmer, whose father, Joe Meek, helped organize the Oregon provisional government at Champee in 1842. . . Game officials reported bands of half-starved deer migrating to the valleys around Bend from the deep snows of the eastern Cascades. . .

Prospects of an increased vegetable yield in eastern Multnomah county rose with the announcement that a number of wholesale nurserymen of the Gresham district plan to convert to vegetable production. . . The City of Portland invested \$200,000 of sewage disposal funds in war bonds. . . Ann W. Shepard was named dean of women at Reed college to succeed Mrs. Martin Leboutillier, who will work for the navy department in Washington, DC.

When an air raid interrupts work in their well-terraced fields peasants duck into one of the handy rock shelters which make Malta something like a bomb-proof rabbit warren. They usually take their bomb-wise cattle with them. Ages before the Germans and Italians came in their planes, the Maltese used these catacombs as storehouses for the fruits of their land. Many cultivated areas have been ruined by bombs, but always have been quickly resown. Farm

eral employers in completing forms necessary for consideration of wage adjustments of the war labor board and also made several preliminary determinations as to whether or not the proposed wage increase needed to be referred to the board. Baillie stated that Elrey has assured him that this service will be available at the employment service each Friday hereafter as long as there continues to be a demand therefor.

## Most-Bombed Spot

# Malta Returning From Ruins To Normal; Casualties Light

VALETTA, Malta, Feb. 12—(Delayed)—Malta, still one of the hottest and most dangerous places in the Mediterranean, is trying to return to normal.

Since the fall of Tripoli, which the Maltese celebrated as ending the island's long aerial siege, the interests of the people have been going back to more routine things than the bare necessity of keeping alive and away from the bombs which have left the island a heap of ruins.

However, despite the terrific pounding of months on end and the colossal property damage, the casualties were relatively light as shown in the report of the council of government. This report disclosed that 240 "blitz widows" are receiving compensation, while there are only ten orphan children and 64 destitute parents on the lists. Injury allowances are being paid to 814 persons and disability compensation to 95.

The steady arrival of convoys during the past several weeks has improved the food and general situation greatly. New stores are being sprung up and old ones are being repaired, restocked and reopened. There is little fresh meat on the open market, but one normally well-to-do householder noted that things are much better now.

"We used to have to pay two shillings (40 cents) for one egg and then it was hard to find," she said. "Actually we had to deal with profiteers to get anything."

Theatres, dance halls, bars and all public gathering places are still closed to service men because of the outbreak of an infectious disease, but that has greatly diminished and is now considered under control.

There is the problem of the gatherers for the council to solve. The famous flocks have been all but eliminated either by bombs or the carving knife.

The farmers, meanwhile, are trying to coax a living from the earth with methods dating back to biblical times.

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## War Writer Casualty Rate High

NEW YORK, Feb. 20—(AP)—The casualty rate among United States correspondents covering the present war since Pearl Harbor has been three or four times greater proportionately than battle casualties suffered by US army forces abroad, the newspaper trade magazine Editor and Publisher said Friday.

Emphasizing the hazardous nature of reporting the present conflict, the statistics show that 60 correspondents out of 301 to 350 now serving abroad have been listed since December, 1941, as dead, wounded in line of duty, missing, or captured or interned and still held by the axis.

Ten have been killed or have died while on war duty. Twenty-six are listed by Editor and Publisher as having been injured, 22 captured or interned and still held, and two missing.

According to figures supplied Editor and Publisher by Maj. Gen. A. D. Surles, director of public relations for the war department, battle casualties of the army to January 31 totaled 41,119. More than 1,000,000 men of the present army of 5,500,000 are now overseas, he said, but only a small portion of them has yet been involved in actual combat.

In 1917-18 American press casualties were one dead, one wounded and two gassed.

## Court Delays Sentencing, Awaits Probe

Sentence of Hugh A. Strong for forgery was postponed again Saturday while officers were believed to be awaiting results of a Yamhill grand jury investigation into two robberies in which Strong was allegedly interested. New date for the sentence is February 27.

The forgery charge, almost two years old, was pressed after Strong had been arrested with Ferdia Trumbly in a stolen car. It had once been continued after the boy had entered a plea of guilty. Trumbly, on parole from the state penitentiary when the car was stolen, was sentenced to return to the prison, serve 10 years on top of his old term and is said to have been involved also in the Yamhill county escapades now under investigation.

Trial of Salverio "Sam" Paris, charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor, was set for April 12, and that of Ralph Leroy Warren, facing another morals charge, for April 13.

Case of Richard Parsegian, charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor, was continued with the understanding that the youth, who is said to be without previous circuit court record, might be acceptable for army service.

## Aircraft Factory To Hire Trained Women Workers

Women between the ages of 18 and 40 are eligible for employment at the Columbia Aircraft corporation plant in Portland if they have received at least three weeks' training in aircraft sheet metal classes like the classes now being conducted in Salem, according to information received by H. N. Miller, state supervisor of vocational training for war production.

Columbia Aircraft is willing to hire 35 women each week for work in Portland. Pay is reported as high. Tasks such as drilling, riveting, assembly of parts are required of the women.

C. A. Guderian, Salem coordinator of vocational training, reported that classes here are not filled to capacity. Instruction is free, being offered as part of the war production training program. Additional information can be gained at the US employment service at 710 Ferry street or from the instructor at the senior high school shop building.

## Salem Man Pledged

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Feb. 20—Warren Wolf, has been pledged to Theta Chi, national men's social fraternity, it was recently announced by Virgil D. Earl, dean of men at the University of Oregon. Wolf is a freshman in the school of architecture and allied arts at Oregon.

## Production Credit Group Elects Here

George H. Fullenwider of Carlton, member of the state board of agriculture and prominent dairyman of Yamhill county, was reelected to the board of directors of Willamette Production Credit association at the ninth annual meeting of stockholders held in Salem on Saturday. Members also elected R. W. "Dick" Reed of Lane county to succeed F. W. Simmons of Springfield on the board. Reed, an all-star in football during his days at University of Oregon, now operates a dairy farm a few miles south of Eugene.

Holdover directors of the association are John W. Ramage, Woodburn; Claud Buchanan, Corvallis, and E. W. McMinds, Astoria. Approximately 200 members and guests from 11 north-west counties of the state attended the meeting and luncheon at the Marion hotel.

Importance of meeting farm production goals for 1943 was discussed by J. W. Bradley of Spokane, secretary of the Production Credit corporation.

Members of the association borrowed more than \$1,139,000 in 1942, with approximately \$400,000 of that amount disbursed in Marion and Polk counties, the treasurer's report showed, indicating also officers said, that the association had the best year in its history in 1942.


All officers were reelected by directors, who met following the stockholders' session.

## WAA Has Election

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Feb. 20—Ruth Shipler, Salem, was elected custodian of the Women's Athletic association February 17 at the annual election. A freshman in physical education, Miss Shipler is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Shipler of Salem.

## Sara Spencer Elected

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Feb. 20—Sara Spencer, Salem, was recently elected corresponding secretary of Kappa Alpha Theta, social sorority. Miss Spencer, a junior in romance languages, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton E. Spencer of Salem.



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