

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor and Publisher
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Merle Chessman: Leader and Friend

There have been few men like Merle Chessman. His abilities found outlet in many fields, and in each he rendered distinguished service. He was a fearless editor, who fought many battles for honest and efficient government, for community and state development, for civic causes of merit and against schemes and policies that he felt threatened the public weal. As a writer he was forceful and cogent; words and trenchant phrases seemed to flow easily from his brain. Important tasks of local leadership came to him during his long residence at Astoria. The community naturally turned to him for help and guidance in its involved problems of local finance, in protection of fisheries, in obtaining naval installations at the mouth of the Columbia. Not a self-seeker, public offices were thrust upon him, such as state senator and member of the state fish commission and state highway commission. Here he performed his public duties with the same fidelity which marked his career as editor and publisher, striving conscientiously to serve the public, fighting off the selfish miscreants of politics, laboring to promote sound legislation.

But Chessman was more than a good editor and able leader; he was companionable, one who loved good fellowship and contributed much to any gathering. His friends were legion, drawn to him by the fine spirit of comradeship he always showed. Hence it is that his passing carries with it more of personal sadness than usually is the case with prominent men. For every tribute paid to his career as journalist and public servant there will be a hundred expressions of genuine sorrow from the multitude of friends whom he made through the years: newspaper folk, navy folk, members of the legislature, and citizens of Clatsop county and of the whole northwest.

It is hard to say "farewell" to a man like that, one whom you have known and admired and leaned on for counsel, who provided company of rare and entertaining quality. But we are sure he went out fighting. He fell face forward, and none who knew that courageous spirit will do anything else than keep "heads up" and feel a responsibility to share the burden he has laid down.

The Subject Is Closed

There are few subjects so emotionally upsetting to the families of deceased war heroes as the now-launched program to bring back their remains from foreign military cemeteries. We approach the subject with hesitancy, and touch on it at all only because, in some instances, criticism has been attached to survivors who have advised the war department in many cases that they would prefer the bodies of their loved ones to remain undisturbed.

It is a difficult choice to make, whichever way it is decided, and the individual ramifications are far too great to warrant unsolicited advice no matter how well-meant. The person who makes the final decision in each case must weigh closely the possible effect of that decision on other members of the family; on small children who by the guidance of a wise mother have come to regard their deceased father in loving memory without the bitterness of mourning; on aging parents for whom time has partially healed a straining wound. Perhaps the veteran himself, prior to going overseas, expressed a wish himself, which would make a marked difference in the decision of his next of kin regarding his remains. The circumstances vary widely in individual cases; the choice often involves situations unknown beyond the immediate confines of the closest relatives.

When the plan for return of bodies to the homeland was first announced some months ago there was comment by clergymen and by newspapers to the effect that the bodies should be permitted to rest in foreign soil. However the question is one for the personal decision of the next of kin. They have suffered most; let them be free to indicate their own choice. The nation is grateful for the sacrifices these men have made; and this removal of bodies to the home soil is one way of showing a nation's gratitude.

Oregon's Sex Education Program

Oregon's program of physical education, including education in matters of sex, is reviewed in an article in "Better Homes and Gardens" for September. The title is "Sex Goes to School in Oregon" and the work of the Bend schools in providing sex education is given high praise. The author, Bob Gilmore, made a visit to Bend, attended classes, conferred with local people, including parents of youngsters, and comes up with a favorable report of the methods and employed and results obtained. Comparing the program with that of other states, Gilmore writes that "none is as comprehensive as the state-wide one in Oregon."

This is part of a general compulsory course of instruction authorized by the legislature. Mrs. Jenelle Moorhead of Salem was a prime mover in obtaining favorable legislation and through her work with the Dr. E. C. Brown trust and the University of Oregon school of physical education in getting the program initiated over the state.

The article will draw country-wide attention to the work being done in Oregon schools. It puts Oregon schools "on the map" but it also puts them "on notice" that their work in this field is under national observation.

The "Dawes" Plan

The 82nd birthday of Charles G. Dawes, of old "hell and Maria" fame, ex-banker and ex-vice president, was noted in the papers with reference to his part in developing the "Dawes plan" for Germany following the first world war. Germany was in a bad fix then. It had not been damaged physically but inflation wrecked its currency. It griped about reparations which were so high they were impossible for the country to meet. The Dawes plan and the Young plan were devised to help the country get back on its feet. The world depression and the rise of Hitler spoiled these plans and led to the second world war.

We think of these former plans and their ultimate futility when we read about all the plans and proposals for world recovery now. A whole lot will depend on the will of the people who are being planned for. We can't suspend the planning; but we dare not be too optimistic about economic blue-printing.

It's a Profitable Mystery, Anyway

If anyone is interested in a military mystery in which no foreign power apparently could be involved, he might cogitate on the unexploded artillery shells and metal fragments found in a 3,700-acre tract of timber on the Fort Lewis reservation. Experts say the projectiles and fragments have been lodged in the timber for 10 to 12 years, and that their position indicates they came from aircraft. And even during the war this particular tract never was subject to artillery practice. Anyway, General Electric engineers have provided the army with a device to permit detection and removal of the metal and the subsequent harvesting of 12,000,000 feet of lumber.

Highway travelers' dispositions aren't improved any by roadside eating places which display "Now Open" signs even when locked up tight.

Model Aircraft Entrants Back From Contest

Three of four members of the Salem Aircraft club who attended the national model contest at Minneapolis, Minn., were back home Monday.

The fourth modeler, Walter Davey, was left convalescing in a Minneapolis hospital following an appendicitis operation. Davey was stricken on the first day of the meet, August 18. He is to be returned by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter T. Davey, who went to Minneapolis.

Accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Elmer J. Roth, who drove the boys to the meet, the other three returned late Sunday. They are Philip Keefer, Gerald Keefer and Elliott Buxton. Roth is senior advisor to the club. Keefer placed ninth in the class. A junior free flight contest at the national contest. Official results of the contest will be mailed to him, Roth said, and until then the boys will not know how many places were won.

The trip was arranged by Roth and sponsored by Salem's Plymouth automobile dealers—Salem Auto company, Anderson's and Stan Baker Motors.

City Briefs

DRIVERS ARRESTED
City police, alerted to prevent holiday accidents, made two arrests for drunken and reckless driving Sunday night. John R. Betts, Independence, was arrested and charged with reckless driving after police said he was driving his car in a dangerous manner in the downtown district. He was committed to jail in lieu of \$50 bail. Also apprehended was William H. Hardman, Salem route 7, on a charge of driving while under the influence of liquor. Police, in their report, said Hardman failed to stop at a red light and at a stop sign and was driving his car in and out of traffic in a dangerous manner. He was released after posting \$250 bail.

ACCIDENT VICTIM BETTER
Mrs. Bernard Herziger, Portland, injured critically in an auto-truck collision near Jefferson Thursday, was in "fair" condition and "resting comfortably." Albany General hospital attendants reported Monday night. C. May Moriarity, Portland school teacher who was riding with Mrs. Herziger, died shortly after the accident while en route to the hospital. Rex Roberts, Roseburg, driver of the truck, was uninjured.

McSHERRY DISMISSED
Irl S. McSherry, confined to Salem General hospital since August 17 with a heart ailment, was dismissed from the hospital Sunday.

CRASH VICTIM DISMISSED
Fannie Douglas, confined in Salem General hospital with injuries suffered in an automobile accident August 23, was dismissed from the hospital Saturday.

BOTTLE TOSSEY FINED
Gene Munger, Dallas, was arrested by city police Saturday on a charge of throwing a pop bottle onto the baseball diamond at Waters park on July 12. He was released on \$25 bail.

Births

KASPER—To Mr. and Mrs. Irvin T. Kasper, Silverton, a son, Sunday, August 31, at Salem General hospital.

HELM—To Mr. and Mrs. Jack Helm, Independence, a daughter, Sunday, August 31, at Salem General hospital.

PAULSON—To Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Paulson, 1694 Court st., a daughter, Sunday, August 31, at Salem General hospital.

THOMAS—To Mr. and Mrs. Byron K. Thomas, 460 N. 13th st., a son, Sunday, August 31, at Salem General hospital.

MASON—To Mr. and Mrs. James Mason, 583 N. Winter st., a daughter, Sunday, August 31, at Salem Deaconess hospital.

MINTEN—To Mr. and Mrs. Edward Minten, Stayton, a daughter, Sunday, August 31, at Salem Deaconess hospital.

JOHNSON—To Mr. and Mrs. Harold Johnson, 585 Piedmont ave., a daughter, Sunday, August 31, at Salem Deaconess hospital.

SPHOON—To Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sphoon, Stayton, a daughter, Monday, September 1, at Salem Deaconess hospital.

Capitol Theatre Begins Revamping

A \$10,000 redecorating and remodeling job now going on in the Capitol theatre will make that theatre one of the city's finest, according to Manager James Phoenix.

Phoenix said Monday the task would be completed late next week. Included in the renovation will be installation of new sound equipment, screen decorations, furnishings and electrical fixtures. Acoustic blocks designed to deaden sound are being installed throughout the theatre and the building is being repainted. The theatre remains open for business as usual, Phoenix said.

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GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty Langer Fights Political PO Appointments



"I can remember when he used to drive battered old cars—instead of selling them!"

Penn Balloting Watched for Labor Law Test

ALLENTOWN, Pa., Sept. 1—(AP)—Ranking political figures are watching closely a bitter eastern Pennsylvania congressional fight for a possible expression of public sentiment on the Taft-Hartley labor law and a preview of the 1948 campaign trends.

A cross section of the nation's political makeup votes September 9 on a new U. S. representative from the Keystone state's eighth district staked out by labor as a campaign ground against the Taft-Hartley act. This Bucks-Lehigh county district, rich in the fruits of soil and industrial plants, will choose between 37-year-old Franklin H. Lightenwaller, republican speaker of the state house under representatives, and Phil H. Storch, 36-year-old president of the CIO Lehigh Valley Newspaper guild, carrying the democratic banner.

The winner will fill the unexpired term of the late Charles L. Gerlach, a republican who represents the district for five terms. There are approximately 118,000 registered voters—some 72,000 republican and 46,000 democratic.

Duke Heiress And Dominican Wed in Paris

PARIS, Sept. 1—(AP)—While the bridegroom puffed a cigarette, Doris Duke, 34-year-old heiress to one of America's greatest fortunes, and Porfirio Rubirosa, 39, an honorary diplomat of the Dominican republic, were married tonight in the Dominican consulate.

Ten wedding guests and a much greater number of reporters and photographers witnessed the ceremony performed by the Dominican consul general, Dr. Salvador E. Paradas. Miss Duke had been married once previously and Rubirosa twice. He was divorced last May from Danielle Darrieux, French actress.

The couple took their vows under the Dominican civil law ceremony in the second-floor consulate office in order that they would be wed, technically, on Dominican soil.

The tall, blonde bride, glittering with diamonds, wearing a green taffeta cocktail dress with a black belt, a small green velvet hat and sandals, topped her husband by three inches as he recited after Paradas a promise to "obey."

FORMER BANKER DIES

HOOD RIVER, Ore., Sept. 1—(AP) E. O. Blanchard, 76, treasurer of the Oregon-Washington Telephone Company and ex-banker here, died today after a month's illness. He helped organize the First National Bank here in 1905, later serving as president until the First National Bank of Portland took over in 1937.

Iris grows from a large fleshy root lying in a horizontal position.

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Public Records

MUNICIPAL COURT

Blaine E. Jennings, Grande Ronde, allowing unlicensed person to drive vehicle, posted \$5 bail.

Thorald R. Baker, Grande Ronde, violation of noise ordinance and no operator's license, posted \$10 bail.

Charles Penney, 540 Morgan ave., illegal turn, posted \$2.50 bail.

John R. Betts, Independence, charged with reckless driving, committed in lieu of \$50 bail.

William E. Hardman, Salem route 7, charged with driving under the influence of liquor, posted \$250 bail.

Robert J. Stark, Salem route 3, violation of noise ordinance, posted \$5 bail.

Arleigh C. Burnsworth, Portland, running red light, posted \$2.50 bail.

Lyle B. Wells, Aumsville, illegal left turn, posted \$2.50 bail.

Albert T. Bursell, Jefferson, violation of basic rule, posted \$7.50 bail.

Gene Munger, Dallas, breaking glass in a public place, posted \$25 bail.

Roman F. Hoelsing, Lebanon, violation of basic rule, posted \$10 bail.

Violent Death, Escapes Worry Boys' School

BOONVILLE, Mo., Sept. 1—(AP)—Death by violence today was added to the troubles of the Missouri state training school for boys, from which 189 inmates have escaped in the past five months.

Found strangled to death in his confinement cell last night was 14-year-old Donald Threlkeld, Hannibal, Mo. Around his neck was a strip of cloth from his coveralls.

In the cell with him, school officials said, was Jerry Owens, 17. Louis J. Sharp, acting superintendent, said Owens had removed some bricks from a partition between two cells and had wriggled through into Threlkeld's cell.

A coroner's jury late today found the death due to strangulation. However the verdict did not name Owens specifically. Lane Harlan, prosecuting attorney, said he would file a murder charge against the youth tomorrow.

Three youths from the school testified at the inquest. Owens and Threlkeld had been "fussing" for the past few days.

Both Owens and Threlkeld had escape records.

54 Beauties Ready To Parade Charms For Title of '47

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 1—(AP)—This year's representatives of American comeliness, a majority of them blondes, received an ongoing reception as they registered for the 1947 Miss America pageant today.

A solid week of high tension—with makeup and coiffures their paramount problems—faced 54 young women in quest of the "Miss America" crown. Many of them put their curvaceousness into formfitting bathing suits for the benefit of photographers within a few hours of their arrival.

The first and probably easiest test of the girls from 41 states,

Canada, and 12 cities is tomorrow. A two-mile parade along the Boardwalk.

From Wednesday through Friday night contests will reduce to 15 the number of girls in Saturday night's finals. Each girl will compete on separate evenings in bathing suits, evening gowns and in a talent exhibition.

Most of them can be settled by investigations in the field without a hearing," he said.

The postmaster investigation touched off one of the sharpest democratic-republican fights during the recent session of congress. It was approved finally by a 44-35 rollcall vote that closely followed party lines.

Langer, with support of the republican majority on his committee and senate republican leaders, delayed senate confirmation on more than 1000 postmaster nominations by President Truman for months until the senate agreed to the investigation and provided \$35,000 for it.

Under existing laws the civil service commission holds examinations for postmaster vacancies and lists the three standing highest. Usually the post office department then consults the congressman from the district where the vacancy exists, or if he is not of the president's party, the senator of the state or national committeeman, before a nomination goes from the White House to the senate.

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Phone: Detroit 871
or write: M. D. Bruckman, Breitenbush, Oregon

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