

# Globe-Trotting Woman Reporter Finds New Career in Religious Social Work

By LORETTA DEHLER  
Statesman News Service

MT. ANGEL — "I thought it about time to stop writing about what other people do and do something myself," was Miss Betsie Hollants' reply to my question, "Why did you give up newspaper and radio work?"

Miss Hollants, who has an international background in press and radio work, currently resides at Mt. Angel Women's College where she is resting before returning to New Mexico and her "new love," rural social work.

A native of Belgium, she was a general assignment reporter on a leading paper in Brussels from 1926 until 1940. She quit because she refused to write under Nazi censorship.

**Reorganized Paper**

After the war, she reorganized the newspaper and in six months had two dailies and several magazines going.

"Then in 1945," she said, "I accepted an invitation of President Roosevelt to visit this country and fell in love with it right away. I returned to Belgium and lectured and wrote about the United States. Several years later I came back on assignment to explain Europe to the United States." Later, she broadcast daily commentaries to Belgium from United Nations headquarters.

Miss Hollants writes and broadcasts in French, Dutch, English and German and can speak several other languages.

**First Adventure**

She has been in the U. S. most of the time since 1948 and her first adventure in social work was with a group of New York families who moved to a rural community in Vermont for the purpose of living "a simpler and more Christian life" than they thought was possible in crowded city centers.

There was no community living. Each family had its own home and acreage, but there

were many community gatherings. Miss Hollants taught school in one of the homes.

She recalls that there was "very much music, folk dancing and singing in several languages."

**Trained to Help Others**

The people had gardens, grew their own vegetables. The children were taught to work with their hands, find pleasure in simple things and, above all, were trained to help others without pay.

The families worked actively with other inhabitants of the area, and a religious study club was formed. It was attended by both Catholics and Protestants including a priest and a minister.

Miss Hollants left this project to answer a call from the Voice of America to head its Belgian department. But after seven months of preparation, the assignment was indefinitely postponed.

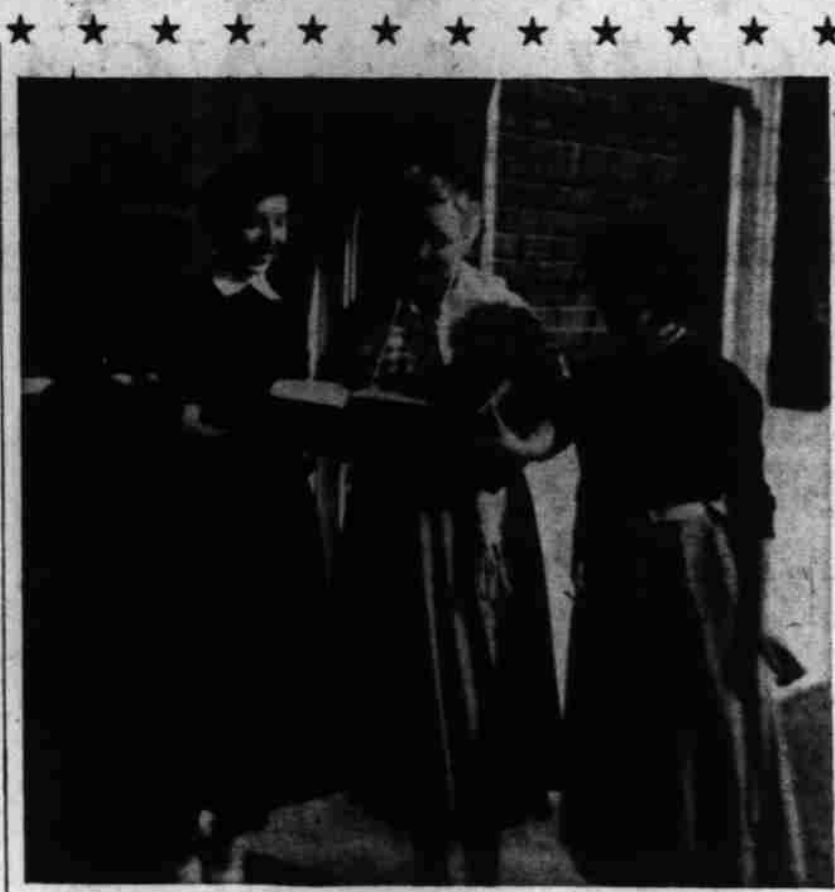
**Went to New Mexico**

She returned to New Mexico to work among the poorer rural folks "to further Christian living."

Miss Hollants and a companion got together with a Benedictine nun who had permission to prospect for possibilities of starting a Benedictine community in New Mexico. Their objective was a farm comprised of two separate communities—one religious and one for lay people, with the two working together to help families of the area.

The inhabitants were all of Spanish origin, and the area is the poorest in New Mexico. They worked over two years, adding to their activities soil conservation, land leveling and installation of irrigation systems. But the project had to be abandoned for a time because the religious community did not materialize.

This spring, however, the energetic ex-journalist will return to the same area to continue social work.



MT. ANGEL — Miss Betsie Hollants (center), Belgian ex-journalist who is currently at Mt. Angel Women's College, is pictured with two students at the college, Carol Wachter, Mt. Angel, and Betty Lanning, Gervais.

## \$2,300 Pledges Assure New Dallas Bible School Quarters

DALLAS — A new Bible School building for Lyle Grade School was assured here this week when \$2,300 in cash and additional materials donated or pledged for the project.

**2 Andrews Sisters Sue Sister Patti**

HOLLYWOOD (UP) — Two of the Andrews sisters have filed suit against their sister, Patti, in a dispute over inheritance which has broken up their singing team.

La Verne and Maxene Andrews petitioned the Santa Monica Superior Court Friday for an order for distribution of a \$60,000 estate left them by their parents.

Attorney R. Bruce Murchison, representing Maxene and La Verne, said he hoped the writ would lead to an amicable settlement of the sisters' differences.

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## Amity-Area Farmers See Field Corn as Major Crop

AMITY — If all goes well, this area may become the first major corn producing area in the state.

Because of the cool summer climate, field corn has never done well in Oregon, but that has been remedied.

**Woman Dies In Car Crash**

GRANTS PASS (UP) — An Olympia woman was killed and her husband was badly hurt when their car collided head-on with a plywood truck on a narrow bridge on the Redwood Highway about 15 miles south of here Friday.

Dead was Mrs. Edna Morris. The car driver, Frank Morris, 61, was taken to a hospital here where the attending physician described his condition as "extremely serious." He suffered fractures of both legs and kneecaps, and head, chest and other injuries.

The truck driver, Gerald William Dooley, Crescent City, Calif., was not hurt.

Two other cars were involved in the accident and traffic was tied up two hours. No one else was injured.

## No Label Needed To Buy CD Tag

WASHINGTON (UP)—The word now is that you can get your civil defense identification tag from the Pet Milk Co. for 25 cents straight. You won't have to send in a label from a company product too.

The Civil Defense Administration announced this Friday in commending the company and the nation's grocers for cooperating in the nationwide program to equip every one with the tags.

## Divorce Case Termed 'Filthy'

MIAMI (UP) — The marital troubles of John Jacob Astor III and his third wife will be settled this week on the basis of testimony a judge called "the most filthy I've heard."

The portly playboy and the stately Mrs. Dolores (Dolly) Fullman gave the stories of their story, 46-day marriage in a secret court session Friday before Judge Vincent C. Giblin.

**Bladder 'Weakness'**

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## Valley Briefs

Statesman News Service

**Swegle**—James Lamb, superintendent of MacLaren School for Boys school will be guest speaker at the meeting of Swegle PTA Tuesday night. The subject of his talk will be "discipline," followed by a question and answer period.

**Central Howell** — Mrs. A. E. Jantz has moved to the tenant house at the J. L. Kaufman place. She has been living in Silverton.

**Union Hill**—Mrs. M. M. Gilmore, a former charter member of the Union Hill Woman's Club was a visitor at the club's meeting at the home of Mrs. Robert Humphreys Thursday. Arrangements were made to hold a cooked food sale at a furniture store in Stayton at 11 a. m. on Saturday, April 2.

**Sheridan**—Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Magnuson of Portland left this week for Honolulu where he will be employed. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Magnuson of Willamina, and a graduate of Sheridan High School.

**Brooks**—Mrs. Ernest Page will undergo surgery Monday at Silverton Hospital. Mrs. Lenora Frey was reported "resting well" at Salem Memorial Hospital following here confinement there Wednesday night.

**Sheridan**—Voters of Mill Creek School District rejected consolidation with the Sheridan School District by a vote of 23 to 8. Sheridan school district voters approved the consolidation by a 45 to 1 vote. Increased tax millage levy was reported to be the major reason for the rejection.

**Willamina**—At the meeting of Primrose Rebekah Lodge, plans for initiation ceremonies on May 5 were begun. Kaye Reynolds will be initiated. The resignation of Geraldine McNamar as drill captain was accepted. A report was given on the Easter breakfast the lodge will serve after sunrise services.

**Central Howell**—Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dettwyler and Miss Esther Dettwyler moved to the Joe Schmidgal home in Bethany District this week. Mr. and Mrs. Schmidgal, son-in-law and daughter of the Dettwylers, moved with their six children to the family home in this community. Paul Dettwyler Jr. and Schmidgal will

**EMERGENCY STOP**

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (UP)—Truck driver Riley Lee Barton, Temple, Tex., thought it was strange when he saw a pair of dual tires complete with wheel rolling past the cab. He pulled up short and took a look. The tires were off his trailer.

## D. A. Claims Witness to Attack on Lebanon Man

ALBANY — District Attorney Courtney Johns Saturday said he had an eye-witness to the attack on E. A. Gall, 63, at Lebanon on March 9.

Johns said Martha Foster, 15, Lebanon, told him she saw Dale T. Hetland strike Gall and that she was in a car with Hetland, his wife Joanne and a third person on March 9 when they drove to a driveway near the Gall home.

"I saw Dale hit Mr. Gall and knock him down," Johns quoted Miss Foster as saying. "He then went to a telephone, used it, and pulled 't f.rom the wall."

**Peered in Window**

The district attorney said the girl told him she and the other two persons were peering in a window when Gall was attacked. After the alleged beating, Hetland drove to Salem where he had been living.

Sheriff George Miller said Gall earlier had identified Hetland from a photo as the man who beat him after Mrs. Goldie Gall made public charges that welfare recipients in the Lebanon area were squandering payments they were not entitled to in the first place.

Hetland was arrested at Long Beach, Calif., but has refused to waive extradition. The district attorney here said he is preparing extradition papers which will return Hetland here to face charges of burglary and assault.

be associated in the dairy business.

**Sheridan**—The seventh annual Talent Fest, sponsored by the American Legion Post and Auxiliary will be Friday at 8 p. m. at Sheridan High School gym. Mrs. Fred Wirfs, general chairman of the event, states that many clubs and organizations have signed up numbers for the program. An offering will be taken with proceeds to be divided between the high school, grade schools and the Legion Building fund.

**APPROVE BUDGET**

OAKDALE—The Oakdale School district voted unanimously 9 to 0 in favor of the school budget.

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## Births At Valley Hospitals

STAYTON—To Mr. and Mrs. William C. Tierce, Turner route 1, a son, March 18, at Santiam Memorial Hospital.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gerald C. Silbernagel, Scio Route 1, a son, March 17, at Santiam Memorial Hospital.

SHERIDAN — Pfc. Loren L. Stout, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Stout, Sheridan, is now stationed in Austria with the Army. He is a member of the Field Artillery.

SHERIDAN—To Mr and Mrs. Elbert Green, Sheridan, a son, March 15, at McMinnville General Hospital.

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