

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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THE HITCH-HIKING SOLDIER

"I saw a soldier boy of short stature carrying two large suitcases walking past my window a mile out of town. Traffic was heavy. What's the matter with Eugene drivers? Are they stuck up? The meteorology students on the campus may be having fun, but I wonder what that poor fellow thinks of Oregonians."

The answer, dear lady, is that there is no good reason for an American soldier to hitch-hike, because he is the best paid soldier in the world, because he gets very much reduced rates on rail and bus lines when he goes on furlough (about 1 1/4 cents a mile), and because he is not supposed to degrade the uniform by any kind of begging, panhandling, or mooching.

By this we do not mean that a soldier should not accept a ride for a short distance from somebody going the same way. That is done all the time. We agree that Eugeneans should be hospitable and friendly to soldiers. It is a nice thought to invite a couple to go along on Sunday afternoon, if you happen to be going up the McKenzie or out through the country.

But the soldier who tries to panhandle his rides for several hundred or several thousand miles when on furlough is an entirely different case. He certainly ought to know his orders by the time he has been in service long enough to get furlough.

As a rule, before furlough is granted the soldier is called before his commander and required to show that he is clean and neat and that he has enough cash to cover his travel both ways. If he has lost all his money in the company crap game, that's his hard luck; he just isn't going to travel unless somebody sends the cash from home. In cases of death or emergency, the Red Cross advances travel money.

The American soldier gets \$50 a month and upwards, over and above all food, clothing, medical and dental care. If he has a dependent family, a generous Uncle Sam matches his allotment to his dependents. The average soldier after all allotments and deductions has at least \$25 per month spending money which is more than a lot of us average in civilian life, more than most of the soldiers have ever had "just to spend."

So the army frowns on hitch-hiking! And with good reason. There have been many cases where criminals or deserters have used the uniform to cover highway robbery. It is no favor to the army to be sorry to the soldier who "can't get home" or "can't get back to camp on time" because he has been a fool.

The trouble isn't confined to enlisted men. There's lots of trouble with junior officers who win a set of shoulder bars and think they've hit a gold mine. Commanding officers who know their business get tight rein on these youngsters and "raise billy-blue hell" when they get into debt, as many always do. Some colonels forbid treating, borrowing and other practices which run into debt, and it's a mighty good rule.

Your ration boards are pestered continually by junior officers who have gone broke on leave and want "just enough gas to get to Florida or Texas or Michigan by Sunday midnight."

We believe everything possible should be done for the convenience and comfort of the American soldier but this does not include any sympathy for the hitch-hiker. The American soldier is a very well-paid man. The kindest thing you can do for that boy in service is remind him that he should save a little of that cash for his trips home and for that grand and glorious time when they all come home.

Eventually the pain in the neck which Hitler has been to all of us is going to boomerang. Pass the rope!

The Germans' defeat in North Africa is their worst since 1918. That is, thus far.

WHAT OTHER EDITORS THINK

MR. STIMSON'S ARMY Christian Science Monitor One of Secretary Stimson's points in urging full public support for an 8,200,000-man army (a total of 11,000,000 in Army and Navy) is that it takes a full year to prepare a man for combat in today's mechanized war. The problems of industry and of the farm are more flexible, the Secretary asserted. This is partly true. An extra spurt of factory production can be obtained by such means as working longer hours for a period. Likewise, farm emergencies can sometimes be met through experiences, as calling school-children and white-collar workers into the fields for a short time. However, it is equally true that a really skilled machinist or farmer cannot be made in anything like a year. The whole manpower question must be one of compromise. Mr. Stimson says the Army has studied its needs carefully and has scaled them to the margin considered wise. It is the Army's responsibility to be ready for any contingency—to be prepared to follow up any advantage, to absorb any reverse. It used to be computed that a Nation could de-

vote 10 per cent of its population to the armed services. In the case of the United States that would mean 13,000,000 men, and beside that figure 11,000,000 looks conservative. But today there arises the problem of production for a new kind of war, and there arise, too, the arsenal problem and food supply problem for American allies. The arithmetic of yesterday cannot compute the needs of today.

That is the long delayed job which the President has finally assigned to the committee headed by Economic Stabilizer Byrnes. A rounded view of the situation should be before us soon.

THE VILLAGE GROCER

(After Longfellow) (By H. I. Phillips—New York Sun) Under a spreading web of rules The village grocer stands; His brow is all tied up in knots, His head is in his hands. And there hardly is from day to day A rule he understands. His hair is thin and getting worse, His face is gray or blue, His brow is wet with honest sweat; The set-up is the grocer's new! His customers are dizzy, but The Grocer's dizzy, too!

Day in, day out, from morn till night, You can hear the loud disputes, As the women battle for sauerkraut, Waxed beans and processed fruits; And the grocer's lot is some loud Bronx cheers, Plus some super-doooper hoots.

And children coming home from school Look in at the open door; (They love to see how their elders act In a rationed grocery store, When both sides figure their total points And dispute the final score!)

He goes on Sunday to the church, And sees the people meek, And marvels that they are the ones Who fought with him all week! And he's glad there are no value cards When the parson starts to speak.

Toiling, computing, sorrowing, Onward through life he goes; Each morning sees the OPA With new rules to disclose; Each evening sees him totter home Just a wreck from head to toes!

His business isn't what it was; And he knows that he is through With the days he knew what he could sell— And knew all the prices, too! And when "charts" were things that a sailor used When he sailed the ocean blue.

Thanks, thanks to thee, my grocer For the lessons that you teach! Into all lives come raindrops fall With a point value for each— I'll take a can of that apple juice— And how many points for peach?

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PAUL DUNHAM

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 21. — VISITING many cities in the Pacific northwest a short time ago were two high executives of the International Business Machine Co., with headquarters in New York city. These two big-wigs, Mr. Ray Stephens, executive assistant to the president of I.B.M., and Mrs. Gordon Packard, general sales manager, had a dozen or so of Washington and Oregon towns on their itinerary. Big cities, such as Portland, Seattle, Vancouver and Tacoma, where large war industries are located, were passed up. These locations are too crowded for the purpose they had in mind. Smaller towns, such as Bellingham, Everett, Centralia, Salem, Albany and Eugene and several others, were visited and looked over from stem to stern. Their visits to these cities were kept very hush-hush. Chamber of commerce officials, real estate men and others in the secret said not a word. They didn't want to jeopardize their town's chance to bag an industry which would employ around 600 people and be one of the largest printing operations west of Chicago. I.B.M. was looking for a western location to house their huge tabulating card printing plant, which will turn out millions of such cards yearly.

After looking over the entire field very closely, they decided Salem, Ore., and the real estate men as much as told them to write their own ticket on any property they might want to acquire. Everyone cooperated 100 percent, and the golden key to the city was made ready for presentation. During the two months of negotiations with the Salem people everything progressed in fine style, right up to the point of closing the deal, when orders came to the two executives to look over the California field; and, with the bands playing "California, Here We Come," Messrs. Stephens and Packard headed south. A month has elapsed since that time and word trickles back to the national capital that San Jose, Calif., is to be the lucky city. With no one to blame, but just a bad break, Salem missed out on the \$64 question.

A NEW potential organization is in the making which has every promise of success. This new organization will be known as War Mothers of America. Only those mothers who have sons in some branch of the armed service or merchant marine will be eligible for membership. This movement started here a few months ago and its present leaders are women who have been closely identified with WCTU activities. Fields scouts will be sent to Oregon and Washington in the near future to establish chapters. The numerous American Legion posts, Veterans of Foreign Wars and other service organizations will be asked to aid the War Mothers in organizing. It has been estimated by the leaders of this movement that over 350,000 women in Washington and Oregon will be eligible for membership.

House action in abolishing the regional agricultural credit corporation is protested by Senator Mon C. Wallgren of Washington in a letter to Chairman Richard B. Russell of the senate subcommittee on agricultural appropriations, in which he gives notice of his desire to appear at the committee hearing. Senator Wallgren submitted communications from apple growers of the Wenatchee-Okanogan district asserting that no private agencies can, or are willing to, take over the job now being done by RACC, and expressing the belief that nothing should be done to disrupt the RACC credit program. It is stated that it takes nearly \$1,000 per acre to grow and pack the crop and that even though local banks were willing to extend this financial aid (which they are not), "their rates are so high that they would take all our profit." The house report charged farm credit administration with failure to show that "any producer in the country would be unable to secure adequate loans from private lending agencies available to them."

WITH crime on the increase, law enforcement is not essential, according to the war department. The Pacific northwest, with its influx of migrants looking for jobs (and getting them), is having its share of crime. Sheriffs and mayors are writing to members of congress that "something must be done" to stop the armed forces from drafting deputy sheriffs, policemen and even penitentiary guards whose places must be filled by elderly, inexperienced men. The protestants insist that maintenance of law and order is vitally necessary if the home front is to be kept free from crimes of all sorts. FBI man J. Edgar Hoover recently informed a congressional committee that 28,000 federal workers have police records and 8,800 involve major crimes. FBI learned this from checking the fingerprints of all employees. Wardens of state and federal prisons are asking that inmates of draft age be inducted into the service, saying that thousands of prisoners are ready to join the colors.

Rainbow Installation Set Saturday

By MARIAN LOWRY INSTALLATION for new officers for the Rainbow Order for Girls will be held Saturday evening, eight o'clock, downtown Masonic temple, open to the public.

Miss Lillian Jonsrud heads the incoming officers as worthy adviser. Installing officers will be: Miss Mickey Donovan, installing worthy matron; Miss Barbara Huntington, drill leader; Miss Mary Alice Sutton, chaplain.

VISITOR HERE Lieutenant Mildred Ann Bohrer, U.S. army nurse corps, Fort Riley, Kansas, was a visitor here this week as guest at the home of Mrs. Cora Olson. Lieutenant Bohrer will be remembered by Lane county friends as the former Mildred Hanna.

AUXILIARY EVENT The auxiliary to the Railway Conductors met recently at the home of Mrs. A. L. Carter, with Mrs. L. L. McMahon as co-hostess. A potluck luncheon at one o'clock preceded a business meeting. The next meeting will be held June 6.

BUSINESS WOMEN'S CLASS The Business Women's class of the First Christian church will hold its annual May breakfast Sunday morning at eight o'clock in the church annex, with Dr. William Jones of the political science department of the University of Oregon as speaker. Reservations are to be made through Miss Lorene Herman or Miss Eva Worden.

EAGLES AUXILIARY Twenty-two members of the Eagles auxiliary from Eugene attended the fifteenth birthday anniversary meeting of the Cottage Grove auxiliary at Cottage Grove, Tuesday evening. The Eugene officers and drill team exemplified lodge work at the meeting.

LUTHERAN DAUGHTERS Finances were discussed by the Lutheran Daughters of Central Lutheran church, meeting Thursday at the home of Mrs. Lloyd Hendrickson. Reports were heard from the recent mother-and-daughter banquet. Mrs. Emil John-

Nile Club Fetes Nydia Temple Queen

Eugene club, Daughters of the Nile, entertained Mrs. A. B. Smith, queen of Nydia temple, Portland, and her officers at the monthly luncheon of the group Wednesday at the Eugene hotel. Accompanying Mrs. Smith to Eugene were Mrs. Tommy Luke, Mrs. Charles H. Castner, Mrs. Fred O. Jennings, all of Nydia temple.

The committee in charge of the meeting included Mrs. Stanley R. Stevenson, Mrs. Harry W. Titus, Mrs. R. L. Collins, Mrs. C. A. Huntington, Mrs. Charles Wiper, and Mrs. Clair N. Hofflich. The next meeting comes the third Wednesday in June.

Two Initiated At RNA Gathering

Mrs. Leonard Oswald and Robert Dale Smith were initiated as new members of the Royal Neighbors of America at the meeting Thursday evening of the lodge, at Knights of Pythias hall. It was voted at the session to send gifts to each of the nine members who are in armed service. Mrs. Allie Clarke headed the committee which served refreshments at the close of the business meeting.

The committee for the next regular session, June 17, will be Mrs. Olive Robinette, chairman; Miss June Robinette, Mrs. Olga Jones, Mrs. Charles Smith, Mrs. Lottie Meek, Mrs. Marjorie Williams, Mrs. Esther Gross, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Arey and Miss Beverly Arey.

son led the study topic for the day, and Miss Martha Vik had charge of devotions. The next meeting will be held June 3 at the home of Mrs. Lorin Carmichael.

SATURDAY EVENT

Sallea division will meet for a potluck supper Saturday evening at six-thirty o'clock at the Knights of Pythias hall. Initiation will be held as part of the business session to follow.

HOSTESS TO GROUP

Mrs. Harry Gordon, Jr., was hostess to members of the Fairmount Guild on Thursday afternoon. A short business meeting was held, after which the hostess served refreshments. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. W. A. Herring.

Installation For Zonta Wednesday

A FORMAL banquet was held by the Zonta club, Wednesday evening, Eugene hotel mirror room, as the annual event for installation. Thirty attended, including five guests—Mrs. Omar Fendall, secretary at the Lane county USO; Mrs. Leona Anderson, Mrs. Warren Korstad, Mrs. Hazel Rader, all three charter members of the club; and Mrs. Ralph A. Hope, inactive member.

Mrs. Fendall talked to the group on the work and program of the USO and expressed appreciation to the group for the assistance it has given from time to time.

Mrs. C. A. Huntington presided as toastmistress. All charter members attending were introduced, and short talks were given by the past presidents, including Mrs. Eva Collins, Mrs. Genevieve Turnpseed, Mrs. Robert M. Fischer, Jr., Mrs. Ralph A. Hope, Mrs. George Korn, and Mrs. Thomas E. Carey, who has served the past year.

Mrs. Harold Miller and Mrs. J. S. Rosencrans were initiated as new members.

Installation Held Mrs. Genevieve Turnpseed, past president of the local club and a past district chairman for the Oregon and Washington Zonta clubs, was installing officer, the following being installed:

Mrs. Fanny Mariatte, president; Mrs. C. A. Huntington, first vice-president; Mrs. Thomas E. Carey, second vice-president; Mrs. Robert M. Fischer, Jr., secretary; Mrs. L. M. Orchard, treasurer; Mrs. Frank A. Graham, Mrs. George A. Metzger, Mrs. A. R. Fredrickson, board members.

Mrs. Mariatte announced her committee for the new year's work and highlighted some of the suggestions for the new year. Next meeting will be the luncheon one, the first Friday in June.

Mrs. Frank A. Graham headed the committee in charge of the Wednesday installation event, and was assisted by Mrs. George Korn, Mrs. C. A. Huntington, Mrs. W. L. Davis, Mrs. L. O. Meisel, Mrs. Elizabeth Romane.

Service Mothers' Group Is Formed

Women of the First Christian church who are mothers of men in the service met this week at the church to organize a group. Officers elected include: Mrs. H. V. Johnson, president; Mrs. Myrtle Kidwell, vice-president; Mrs. Arrah Stump, secretary; Mrs. Will R. Robertson, assistant secretary; Mrs. M. E. Jepson, treasurer; Mrs. Wayne R. Robertson, publicity chairman.

The club voted to meet the third Tuesday of each month in the church annex.

Catholic Women Elect Officers

The second division of St. Mary's Catholic Altar society met on Wednesday in the garden of Mrs. Ansel Giustina's home for their annual potluck luncheon.

There were three guests, Rev. F. P. Leipzig, Rev. L. H. Sohler and Mrs. E. Pedron and twenty-five members present. The following new officers were elected: president, Mrs. E. J. Eberdt; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. J. F. Heidenreich. Retiring officers are: president, Mrs. F. J. Penbergast; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. B. E. Daoust. There will be no more meetings of the group until fall.

Kindergarten Plans For Tea

Mothers of kindergarten pupils of Lincoln school will entertain Monday afternoon at a tea in the kindergarten room at the school, to which they have invited all mothers of that school area who have children eligible for entering kindergarten in the fall. Children who will reach five years by Nov. 21 will be of an age to be enrolled.

Girl Scouts will maintain a nursery room for infants and younger children, in another school room, so that mothers may be free to enjoy the program, of which Mrs. A. W. Prialux is chairman.

Alpha Iota Group Holds Installation

Delta Phi chapter of Alpha Iota celebrated its fourth birthday with a formal banquet and "buddy party" in the mirror room of the Eugene hotel last week.

After the banquet the new officers were installed into their offices as follows: president, Miss Helen Clouse; temporary vice-president, Miss Adeline Vossen, recording secretary, Miss Audrey Llewellyn; corresponding secretary, Miss Wretha Miller; treasurer, Miss Marie Cole; historian, Mrs. Fred Wullschlegler.

POETRY GROUP

The poetry group of the Women's City club is meeting Saturday, two-thirty o'clock, home of Mrs. Quirinus Breen, Mrs. L. K. Page is to have the program on "Verse of Our Negro Poets."

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Wedding Arranged For Sunday

ANNOUNCED for next week is the wedding of Mrs. Stewart Korn and Corporal Fred Sawyer of the United States Army. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Edwin W. Weisman, Mrs. Korn the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Korn.

Miss Katherine Korn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Weisman, will be the attendant, and Harold Prael will be best man. A reception will be held in the Wheeler room of the church following the service.

VFW Auxiliary's Meeting Reported

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary met Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. John Johnson for a covered dish dinner. Teen attending. In the morning meeting which followed the report of her recent visit to Portland where she attended a banquet for the national president and the council members of the district meeting to be held in Eugene Sunday at one-thirty o'clock in the Knights of Pythias hall and members were urged to attend. Next regular business meeting is June 3.

Wins Scholarship

OREGON STATE COLLEGE Corvallis—Miss Carmen Fook Veneta was one of sixty-two Oregon high school students named on the state board of higher education scholarships to attend Oregon State college this fall. She is recommended by Dr. Francis Crow union high school in Miss Taylor, who plans to be in home economics at the State, was editor of the school paper, vice-president of the member of National Honor Society, student body secretary, treasurer, and took part in the body play.

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TIME IS RATIONED, too, nowadays, when it comes to giving a bridal shower. But no matter how impromptu the party, refreshments can be pleasant and help make the shower a real success. A platter heaped attractively with a variety of cookies from the grocery store solves ration problems and kitchen work and pleases every guest. A simple fruit punch is all the additional refreshment needed.

In this year, it's usually only a matter of days when, following the announcement, a friend will be off to the altar for her wedding. No matter how short the notice, the occasion must still be made memorable by a reunion of friends.

There is rarely time to plan an elaborate repast, let alone carry it out. Nor would anything fancy be in tune with the times. Light but toothsome refreshments are the order of the day, and a wide variety of sweet biscuits from the grocery store are the perfect answer to today's informal entertaining.

A cool fruit punch, and a tempting assortment of cookies will fill the bill. Dozens of varieties of biscuit dainties are offered the good hostess at her grocery store. They're unrationed, they're less expensive than any foods of comparable richness she could make herself or have made, and thus they spare her own butter and sugar while saving her coupons, her time and her labor. Dessert-type biscuits and cookies offer such a wide variety of choice that the most widely differing tastes are sure to be pleased. Attractively arrayed in cookie dishes or on trays, sweet biscuits served with fruit punch furnish just the right touch a clever hostess wants for a friendly gathering to honor this year's war bride.

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