

### Crash Landings Get Tiresome

LONDON. — (AP) — Crew members of the Flying Fortress "Hang the Expense Again" are "getting damned tired" of emergency landings—especially in planes with the tails blown off.

On a recent mission over Germany, a direct flak hit blew off the tail gunner's compartment and the tail gunner, the entire left elevator, half the right elevator, and nine-tenths of the rudder.

Other planes of the formation reported the Fortress, piloted by 2nd Lt. Frank E. Valesh, of St. Paul, Minn., probably had crashed deep in enemy territory.

"When that flak hit us it felt as if somebody had hit me in the stomach with a plank," waist gunner S-Sgt. Herschel H. Broyles, of Chattanooga, Tenn., said. Broyles picked himself up seven feet from where he had been standing when the flak hit.

In the pilot's compartment, Valesh snapped on the automatic pilot. The hand controls were gone.

"We reared up all at once into an uncontrollable steep climb," Valesh said, "but there was enough fall surface left to straighten us out."

"I sent it an SOS for fighter protection and just then a voice came over my radio: 'What the

hell do you think we are?' "I looked out and damned if the air wasn't full of P-47's." The crew threw overboard everything they could move and Valesh headed the plane for the nearest field in England. The first one they found was taking in other planes. Valesh had to find another.

The second field didn't answer on the radio, so the fighters "buzzed" the runway to keep it clear.

While the crew huddled in the radio room for a crash landing, Valesh brought the crippled plane in for a perfect three-point landing.

It was the fourth emergency landing for Valesh and his men. Twice before they crash landed bullet-riddled planes and once made an emergency landing because of mechanical trouble.

Other crew members included Frank C. Gregory, of Greeley, Colo., and S-Sgt. Louis Black Jr., of 4259 35th St., San Diego, Cal.

### Eugene Building in January Up Slightly

Eugene building, now at one of its lowest points in history, managed during January to show an increase over the previous month and over January 1943.

The city engineer's office announced the month's building valuation as \$8,305. This sum included seven new-building permits for work valued at \$930, plus 51 repair-building permits for \$7,375. During January of last year, building totalled \$4,495, and during December, \$4,121.

### New Ways to Prayer Suggested by Priest

BUFFALO, N. Y. — (AP) — Stating that "consecration of trivial acts in our daily life could lead to new ways of finding prayer," Rev. Timothy Monahan, OFM, suggests: "The modern woman in painting her 10 fingernails could be reminded of the 10 commandments and find God in what might otherwise be an act of vanity."

He spoke last night at Our Lady of Perpetual Help church.

### It's NEWS in England!

PRESTON, Eng. — (AP) — Wealthy 63-year-old Sir Cuthbert de Highton, holder of the second oldest baronetcy in England, married his 19-year-old secretary-typist, Philomena Simmons, here. It was the first wartime wedding to crash the front pages of British newspapers.

### WOOTON GOES EAST

SALEM, Feb. 1. — (AP) — Col. Elmer V. Wooton, state selective service director, left today for Washington, D. C., where he will attend a conference of state selective service directors, and a meeting of the executive board of the National Rifle association.

Utah is the only state in the union which was colonized systematically, Brigham Young sending scouts throughout the territory to find lands suitable for farming.

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### Pratt Funeral Set Thursday



JOHN K. PRATT

Funeral services for John K. Pratt, Eugene insurance man who died Sunday after several months of illness, will be held Thursday as a requiem mass at 9 a. m. at St. Mary's Catholic church. The rosary will be recited Wednesday at 7:30, at the Poole chapel.

Mr. Pratt, who had operated his agency in Eugene since 1911, was a member of the Eugene Elks lodge; the Kiwanis club; chamber of commerce; War Dads of America; Eugene Association of Insurance Agents, of which he was the first president; the Portland association of insurance agents, and the Oregon association, of which he was president in 1930-31. He also was a charter member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity, at the University of Missouri.

### Farmers Back—

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Stickels further told the group of the necessity of contacting servicemen who are now in the field as well as those who have returned. It was suggested that through veterans organizations and the boys' families they be contacted and asked regarding their future plans—whether they want the old job back, a new job, school, or what? It was emphasized that there should be some central place where the newly returned veteran can find an answer with a human approach to his problem.

Officers for the council were nominated and elected at Monday's meeting. Fred Stickels, Eugene, was elected president; W. B. Gard, Eugene, first vice-president, in charge of the industrial division; William S. Fort, Springfield, second vice-president, in charge of public works division; Dr. A. Orville Waller, Eugene, third vice-president, in charge of service-men's contact division; Roy Woodruff, North Davis, precinct secretary; Horace M. Myers, Hayden Bridge precinct, treasurer.

President Stickels announced that within a few days he would name chairmen of 12 committees or departments of post-war activities, who would sit in with the council's board of directors. O. S. Fletcher, chairman of a sub committee which has charge of precinct appointments to the council, explained that the men selected by his committee were subject to approval by the precinct and that precincts within a six-mile area of Eugene can elect whomever they wish.

Farmers present at Monday night's meeting included Wilmer Walton, Wendell Bartholomew, Route 1, Santa Clara; Glenn Harnden, North Davis; Roy Woodruff, North Davis; Earl M. Pallett, Route 4, Westmoreland; Mrs. Gaven Dyott, Blanton; E. F. Juddkins, Juddkins; Howard S. Merriam, Goshen; Horace Myers, Frank Bartholomew, Hayden Bridge; Vincel Davis, Clarence A. Chase, Armitage; Cal Young, Willagillespie; Frank B. Harlow, Roy E. Corum, W. A. Ayres, Willakenzie; T. Q. Green, Walter Drury, Coburg; E. G. Vogt, Paul Plank, Lone Pine; Fred E. Chambers, Irving; Hans Nielsen, Zumwalt; Leroy Chase, B. O. Smith, Thurston. Representatives for Bethel, College Crest, Glenwood, Douglas Gardens, and Bailey Hill were unable to attend.

Among members of the Central Lane Planning council who also attended the meeting were Judge Clinton Hurd, Lane county court; Mayor Elisha Large, Eugene; A. B. Anderson, Elmer Maxey, W. S.

### Vanport Federal Schools Described By System Head

The federal government does not attempt to control the educational operation of schools it supports, and they can be made highly effective by using a "high degree of decentralization of responsibility," Superintendent James T. Hamilton of Vanport City schools declared here Monday night.

Speaking before a meeting of Phi Delta Kappa, professional education honorary, at Willis cafe, Hamilton narrated problems of administering the new school system at the FWA housing project built to accommodate 40,000 war workers.

The system, Hamilton said, grew "Topsy fashion" in response to functional needs as they were recognized, and only now is it getting to the place where an analysis of real needs can be made and the system can be well integrated. On assuming the superintendent's job 13 months ago, he found that he had "a specific and unique job to do, and that many unique practices would have to be instituted."

Because of the small number of school buildings (five elementary at present, and two more are to be built), students attend in two shifts, half in the morning and half in the afternoon, each group with a six-hour school day. Hamilton and his staff opposed the "200 per cent use plan" for many reasons, including the fact that half the youngsters, whose parents both work, have to be on the street (or at least out of school) half the day.

This leads towards delinquency problems, which have "not been great," Hamilton said, and prevents the school from integrating its activities with those of the home as in normal times and conditions. WPB recently gave permission to apply for more schools, so that the 200 per cent use may be eliminated.

Because half the students arrive at school before daybreak, arrangements had to be made to give them opportunities to take naps, for which pads are placed on tables. Breakfast and mid-afternoon snacks are served, to counteract inabilities of the working parents to give their children proper health and nutritional care.

In setting up the system within Columbia district 33, Hamilton stated, the old emphasis on reading, writing, and arithmetic fundamentals was subjugated to finding out "what the pupil needed most." Teachers were asked above all to be friendly and to gain the confidence of pupils and

Fort, city of Springfield; Eugene H. Silke, superintendent Springfield schools; W. K. Barnell, Mountain States Power company; Frank Bouck, John Boeshans, Springfield chamber of commerce; Dr. A. Orville Waller, J. E. Turnbull, Eugene chamber of commerce; John Wagenman, AFL; Ben F. Ryan, railroad brotherhoods; Loyall Rugh, Harvey L. Hilton, realty board; Day T. Bayly, Taxpayers league; Mrs. Harold B. Jensen, Business and Professional Women's club; Mrs. V. N. Freeman, American Association of University Women; H. J. Cox, Willamette Valley lumbermen; Ralph Laird, Pomona grange; Chesley Brazil, Bonneville power administration; J. W. McArthur, Eugene water board; Wayne Crooch, Junior chamber of commerce; Dr. Melville Jones, Lane County Medical association; Reese Wingard, Lane County Bar association; Dr. Vance H. Webster, Eugene Ministerial association; Earl M. Pallett, University of Oregon; Ben F. Dorris, draft boards; Kenneth Shumaker, G. D. MacLaren, school district 4; Percy Morse, John Quiner, B. R. Wagner, Ross Beeson, veterans organizations; Herman Kehrl, League of Oregon Cities; Victor P. Morris, chairman of the Oregon post-war readjustment and development committee; O. S. Fletcher, county agent; A. F. Richards, Lane county war industries.

Ready to Fight Again  
PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 1. — (AP) — The famous 41st division, the Pacific northwest's own, is in fighting fettle again after recuperating in Australia, says Lt.-Col. Mike A. Trapman, first officer of the unit to return home.

"Physically, the men are at their peak," the G-4 (supply) officer on the general staff of the 41st, said in an Oregonian interview. "The training they have undergone since their return to Australia from New Guinea, plus the furloughs they have had have done wonders. They are rarin' to go again. Some of the men of the 162nd infantry who had a tough time of it at Salamaua have regained weight they lost."

MRS. GANDHI ILL  
BOMBAY, Feb. 1. — (AP) — Mrs. Mohandas K. Gandhi, wife of the Indian nationalist leader, suffered a severe heart attack yesterday and is in a weakened condition, it was announced today.

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to put them to work at tasks, crafts, and studies which appealed to them.

Vanport now accommodates 4,400 youngsters through a school staff of more than 300. Six nursery schools act as supplements, and 600 high school students are sent to Portland high schools with their tuition paid by FWA funds, since there are no taxpayers and all property is owned by the government.

Hamilton described difficulties in working with the many public agencies which have a hand in Vanport, including FWA, the federal public housing authority, and war production board. He said he had found the most effective means of "getting things done" was "to go to the top of the bureau" where competent people are in charge.

Although bureaus interfere little in educational policies, he said, they do exert control over government-owned schools by providing the buildings and equipment under "mass orders" from Washington which may not meet the schools' respective needs. Such practices can easily inhibit the activities of both teachers and students if care is not taken, Hamilton said.

The speaker applauded the work of his assistant superintendent, Wendell L. Van Loan, former principal of Eugene's Roosevelt junior high school, who has done "a swell job," he said.

**TODAY on the HOME FRONT**  
By JAMES MARLOW and GEORGE ZIELKE

WASHINGTON, (AP) — Congress, which writes the tax laws, apparently is trying to pin the rap for the present complicated income tax forms on the treasury.

A number of congressmen, both in speeches on Capitol hill and on visits home during the holiday recess, have pointed the finger at the treasury when the subject of the income tax has come up. Yet congress usually thumbs its nose at treasury recommendations.

The treasury's internal revenue bureau says it would like to simplify the tax blanks if it could. The difficulty lies with the tax laws themselves. Income tax law has been built up piecemeal. Bits have been added from year to year, other bits knocked out.

A real simplification job will have to start from scratch. However, the extraordinary complexities of this year's tax blanks won't have to be repeated. The shift to pay-as-you-go piled complication on complication.

When congress declined—under threat of presidential veto—to go

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along with the idea generally credited to Beardsley Ruml of skipping a whole tax year in order to start pay-as-you-go, it got snarled up in more and more knots. It canceled 75 per cent (or \$50) of one year's taxes. That left 25 per cent, ordered paid in 1944 and 1945. This had the effect, roughly, of increasing taxes by 12½ per cent for each of these two years—an effect which could have been obtained by skipping a tax year and adjusting new tax rates. But some feared such a boost would become permanent.

The loudest argument raised against the Ruml plan was the contention that some persons of large income would stand to gain huge amounts. As a result, congress wrote in a so-called "anti-windfall" provision intended to catch some taxes on the otherwise "forgiven" part of some large incomes.

And now? Senate and house conferees have agreed to eliminate this "windfall" provision from the law.

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### Secret Service Busy Stamping Out Rackets

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The secret service, whose agents were kept hopping to safeguard President Roosevelt during his unprecedented travels in 1943—including his trips to Cairo and Tehran—were also busy combating new wartime rackets at home during the past year.

In a year-end report on secret service activities, the treasury said vigorous steps had been taken to smash ration stamp counterfeiting, which resulted in 160 arrests, principally in the New York area. Secret service agents, uncovered and blasted a new type of fraud—the counterfeiting of postage stamps bearing misprints to deceive collectors.

In one of the most intensive crime-prevention campaigns ever conducted in this country, the secret service went after the current classification of "the meanest thieves," those who steal and forge allowance and allotment checks for dependents of men in the armed forces.

Secret Service Chief Frank J. Wilson said there were 1,628 forgery convictions during the year, but that the success of the prevention program was reflected in the fact that while the check payments doubled in 1943, the number of forgery investigations increased by only about one-third. Wilson said an encouraging note was that money counterfeiting dropped further toward a position of "relative insignificance" in the national crime picture during the year. Two counterfeiting plants were seized in the United States and one in Havana.

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Roy K. Reed, Pastor

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