

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
(Published Every Evening and Sunday)
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER Alton F. Baker
MANAGING EDITOR William M. Tugman
NEWS SERVICE Associated Press, United Press
MEMBER Audit Bureau of Circulation
Entered at the Post Office at Eugene, Oregon, as second-class matter.

Years Overtake P. Waldo Davis

Last time we saw P. Waldo Davis was just a few weeks ago when the Lane County Pioneers were meeting at the fairgrounds. Mr. Davis played the organ and his old friend, Rev. Frank Cook, sang "Oh Pioneers." Mr. Davis was recovering from an illness, and he did not bring his bells with him. But when Lester Hullin called for the music, P. Waldo was just as "pearl" as ever, and somehow he recalled the quip he made the first time we ever saw him which was many years ago when he came bursting into the office with some meeting notices. Somebody remarked that it would "take a trained sprinter to keep up with him," and Mr. Davis said:

"Only thing that can ever catch up with me is the years and I figure to outrun them for a long time."

Mr. Davis was always a favorite with the reporters of the RG, and if you will notice the obituary story in Wednesday's paper you will find it has that "little extra something" which newswriters give to people of whom they are fond. They were telling last night about an incident which happened when Paul Deutschmann (now with the Denver Post) was our city editor. P. Waldo had brought in a parcel of announcements and he was arguing with Paul:

"Why," said Mr. Davis, "I'm the best reporter on your staff. Do I have to wait till I'm gone to make Page ONE?"

The death of such a personality is indeed Page One copy. It is difficult to think of any person in our time in Lane County who has been more widely known or more sincerely liked. He brought pleasure to thousands of people with his performances on the bells, and more than that—he had the unusual gift of creating the atmosphere of happiness wherever he went. If he had any of the "dark moods" to which most of us are subject, they were never exhibited in public.

It is interesting to note that P. Waldo Davis was graduated from the University of Oregon in 1894 (about the time when Cal Young was coaching the first football team) and that he spent many years as a professional on the Chataqua and vaudeville circuits, and that he had been a wheat rancher in Eastern Oregon and a farmer and a business man. Perhaps it is from this wide variety of interests and occupations he derived his "spice." He demonstrated that it is possible to have many "careers"—the most important being to get all the joy possible out of being alive. We cannot improve on the tribute which has been paid to this man by our staff in adopting him as one of their "favorites," out of all the hundreds and hundreds of people who come in and out with messages and missions. He leaves gay memories. Somewhere in his travels P. Waldo Davis must have drunk from the legendary fountain of youth.

'And the Band Played On'

It has been suggested that Eugene's new Concert Band (formerly Municipal) should adopt a theme song and that the song should be that old familiar:

"Casey would wait with a strawberry blonde And the band played on..."

The band will not be disbanded for lack of support out of city funds. By tapping the reserve (record) fund of the Musicians Union, by enlisting the Active Club to take care of incidental arrangements, and with the continued leadership of John Stehn, we shall have a program of four more park concerts this summer...

"And after that, next year is another year." Before another year it should be possible to find an effective sponsoring group to maintain the band program. If it is not possible or advisable for the city government to use tax funds and act as sponsor, the city can still buy a schedule of concerts within the limits of available funds.

Much of the credit for saving the band from dissolution belongs to Maxwell Morse who presents the rare combination of being a merchant and employer along with being a musician and president of the local Musicians Union. The informal agreements under which the band will continue to serve the community are a tribute to his skillful and persistent leadership.

You know, in other cities they often ask this question about Eugene:

"How come you people in Eugene have civic organizations which seem to go on and on forever whereas in most towns they start and stop and never seem to find a firm footing?"

We have never been able to frame any properly logical or modest answers to this question. Eugene is just that kind of place. For years it was Frank Gilstrap and a little group of old timers who kept the band from withering away. Now comes a younger group—Max Morse and the Actives and the Musicians Union. The formula will be changed, but the Eugene Concert Band will play on... and on! The theme song would be appropriate.

Who can remember when you used to be able to tell if the motor was running by watching the tail light shake?

Root Out the '5 Percenters'

When President Truman's aide, Major General Harry Vaughan, in an unguarded moment, stated recently that he could "name at last 300 contract agents" in Washington, he was probably guilty of nothing but understatement. The term "5 percenters" is new and catchy. It would surprise us if these go-betweens worked for any such small percentage as 5 per cent. Washington has been lousy with these gents for many years.

How far the Army and Navy and Air Corps have been infected is another story. The present scandal affecting two high ranking generals in the purchasing departments of the Army is not the first scandal. Kentucky's former Congressman Mays is still doing time for his involvement in wartime graft, as is one former Air Corps general. It is high time that the whole mess is aired out.

However, it should not be assumed that because a few high rankers have been tainted that the whole military has been corrupted, because we believe that the evidence will show that this is not true.

The prime suckers for the "5 percenters" have been the business men seeking contracts. Lost in the mazes of Washington, many of them are easy prey for the "guys in the know" (and the list would include many lame duck congressmen). Many a business man has paid a commission to get contracts which he would have had anyhow without paying anybody a cent.

Apparently the military purchasing needs the same sort of overhauling which Lane county's purchasing methods need. Where there is open competitive bidding on publicly advertised specifications no seller needs to pay for "pull." Uncle Sam's business is only a little more complex than Lane county's. The "5 percenter" and the moocher gets in his bite only where unbusinesslike methods are retained.

Music is like medicine, says a doctor. We'll agree that some of it is hard to take.

If you break diet and gain several pounds, don't complain. The weight of the transgressor is hard.

A lawyer can keep himself pretty well dressed on two or three suits a week.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By Peter Edson NEA WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT

'Billions for Defense' Must Be Balanced, Says Noorse

WASHINGTON—(NEA)—Efforts to hack a billion dollars off the \$15,000,000,000 U. S. defense budget, together with congressional reluctance to take up the \$1,500,000,000 program of military assistance for Europe, raise an old question. It is how much the United States can afford to spend on preparedness in time of peace.

Chairman Edwin G. Noorse of the President's Council of Economic Advisers analyzed this question during a recent Joint Armed Services Orientation Course for civilian industrial leaders and the press. What he tried to do was define the balance between military and civilian points of view.

Military planners sometimes think that the armed services should have first call on all U. S. resources. Civilian economists think principally of providing customers with the greatest possible volume of goods and services. To them military security is secondary.

The old idea that an army travels on its stomach must now be expanded, says Dr. Noorse. It must now include the idea that the armed services travel on the national economic machine.

After V-J Day, everyone looked for peace and reduced spending for war. But in March, 1948, President Truman gave Congress the bad news that \$3,000,000,000 more would be needed to bolster national defense. The result was that a downward trend in prices was immediately reversed. It became a new burst of inflation. By early fall it had carried wholesale and retail prices to new peaks of inflation.

Saw New Controls Necessary Dr. Noorse says he then came to the conclusion that this extra defense effort would so aggravate scarcities of both materials and manpower that new inflationary controls would be necessary. And, since this was a cold war instead of a hot one, there was some doubt whether more controls would be acceptable to the American people.

In making up the 1950 military budget, it therefore became necessary to set limits on military expenditures. As the late Secretary of Defense James V. Forrestal put it, undue enlargement of military spending would weaken the national economy. The President decided to hold military spending down to \$15,000,000,000, even though this might involve some risk.

Since that time, a new recession has set in. Dr. Noorse says it is still too early to tell whether this decline will continue to further depression, whether it will level off, or whether it will lead to new expansion. But while this recession is on, there is some pressure to increase military expenditures. The idea is to restore business confidence and maintain prosperity till the middle of 1950.

Dr. Noorse admits there is some validity to this theory, but it requires qualifications. If military expenditures were cut at this time, it might produce a serious recession. On the other hand, it cannot be argued that increased military expenditures would be an unmitigated good for the country. During the war many domestic expenditures had to be cut. School construction was retarded. Streets and highways were neglected. Houses were not built as fast as new families were formed. "Brownouts" in many areas showed electric power production needed expansion.

Draws Striking Comparison As a basis for comparison, Dr. Noorse points out that \$15,000,000,000 a year military budget means spending at the rate of \$300,000,000 a week. Three hundred million dollars is about what the President proposes to spend next year—not just for a week—on housing, aid to education, and rural electrification. All the money that can safely be spared from armament, says Dr. Noorse, can therefore be used to raise the living standards of major segments of the U. S. population.

Military preparedness must therefore be balanced with economic and financial preparedness, he concludes. That is why the Marshall Plan, the President's program for economic assistance to underdeveloped countries, the North Atlantic Pact and military assistance for Europe must be considered part of an integrated national policy. They are not just parts of a separate, international policy. They are intended to enable the United States to buy maximum national security for each dollar spent.

Coming from the chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, this presentation by Dr. Noorse gives a revealing exposition of some of the thinking that has gone into preparation of the administration's program.

Final decisions on all these issues are now being made by appropriations committees and the Congress.

The World of Tomorrow



Ernie Pyle Rests in Quiet Beside Heros He Described

HONOLULU — (UP) — Ernie Pyle and one of the unknown soldiers he depicted in his writings rest side by side in a new cemetery overlooking the Pacific.

Both were laid to rest with three other heroes in ceremonies opening the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, where 2000 dead of World War II will be buried in days to come.

2000 Present

More than 2000 persons watched as the former Scripps-Howard and United Feature Syndicate war correspondent and author, killed by Japanese machinegun fire on Ie Shima in 1945, was laid to rest. His eternal burial place was the majestic green setting of Punchbowl Cemetery on the side of an ancient crater overlooking Diamond Head.

In adjacent graves were placed the remains of two Marine privates, an Army lieutenant and the unknown soldier of the Pacific.

Others Buried

With Pyle's remains were those of Marine Pfc. Francis A. Riese, son of Edward C. Riese, Massillon, O.; Army 1st Lt. William A. Sylvester, of Bakersfield, Cal.; and Marine Private Bruce A. Mitchell, son of Mrs. Isabelle Westgarth, Seattle.

Among the wreaths and flowered plaques that banked the graves was a flowered quill fashioned from orchids and yellow roses presented by Bert Buchwach, president of the Honolulu Press Club.

"Ernie was a GI's reporter and died reporting the GI's story of the war," Buchwach said in tribute to Pyle.

"There was no better soldier than he. Ernie sweated and suffered with infantryman and more than anyone else helped America understand the heroism and sacrifices of its fighting men.

"He was a little guy who loved the little guy and he brought the front to the front door of every American home.

"His name lies above all in the integrity of what he wrote—his byline meant truth and he had no regard for safety and comfort in getting it."

Edwin C. Heinke, assistant managing editor of the Indianapolis Times, represented Pyle's father, William, and his aunt, Mary Bales, at the graveside. Heinke presented bouquets of orchids and red roses for the family and the Scripps-Howard newspapers.

Other floral pieces came from Pyle's alma mater, the University of Indiana, and his fraternities there—Sigma Alpha Epsilon (academics) and Sigma Delta Chi (journalistic).

Four wartime Pacific correspondents were among the honorary pallbearers. They were Dan McGuire and Joe James Custer.

15% OFF On Your

Coleman FLOOR FURNACE

If You Install It Before July 31st

Do It Now! Save money, be ready for winter before the rush. And get the famous Coleman that gives you Automatic Heat—Clean Heat—Warm-Floor Heat.

See A Demonstration Today

L. D. CURTSINGER "Automatic Heat Merchant"

267 Van Buren Dial 5-4033

Walnut Aphids Seen

NEWBERG — (UP) — An outbreak of aphids on walnuts is reported by Lloyd Baron, manager of Oregon Nut Growers Inc.

Baron said a check last Sunday showed two types of the aphids: one on the underside of leaves; the other on the leaf rib. The Oregon State College Extension Service recommends a 4 per cent nicotine dust against both species. Some growers believe that aphids may be contributed to the poor quality of nuts in the last year's harvest, Baron said.

Tribune Buys Capital Paper

WASHINGTON — (UP) — Purchase of the Washington Times-Herald by Col. Robert R. McCormick, publisher and editor of the Chicago Tribune, was announced Thursday in a front-page box in the Times-Herald.

The brief announcement said: "The executors of the estate of Eleanor Patterson announce the sale of the Washington Times-Herald to the Tribune Company of Chicago, Ill.

"Col. Robert R. McCormick, president of the Tribune Com-

pany, has authorized that the Times-Herald... the present fact of the Herald will be retained... The announcement... by executors William C. Brooks, C. Waldrop and... disclosed. In Chicago Col. McCormick... Tribune bought the Times-Herald today... management will be...

Your Doctor's Prescription Economically Prescribes PENNY-WISE... 36 East Broadway, 1949

SHOE Sale! STILL IN PROGRESS UP TO 50% REDUCTIONS POWELL & EDBLON Footwear

Weisfield's DIRECT FACTORY PURCHASE SAVES YOU \$60.00 ON THIS NATIONALLY ADVERTISED 3-WAY 1949 RADIO COMBINATION RADIO-PHONOGRAPH BENDIX YOU PAY ONLY 99.95 On Weisfield's Terms... As low as No Money Down and \$1.75 A WEEK De Luxe Features: AM & FM RADIO, BIG 7-TUBE AERO PRECISION BUILT SUPER-HET RADIO, BUILT-IN AREAL, TONE CONTROL, FULL SIZED BALANCED MAGNETIC SPEAKER, DRAWER TYPE AUTOMATIC RECORD CHANGER, PERMANENT NEEDLE, AMPLE RECORD SPACE, RICH MAHOGANY VENEER CABINET, FAMOUS BENDIX PHANTOM GRILLE. NO MONEY DOWN 3 Days FREE Trial OPEN FRIDAY UNTIL 9 P. M. WEISFIELD'S Jewels 881 WILLAMETTE