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This Cat Could Sure Ruin the Boys' Homecoming



HIGHWAY PROJECTS
Though the news reports of the meetings of the highway commission may be depended on for accounts of the larger affairs coming before that body it is to the minutes of the meetings that one looks for matters that do not get into the news or for decisions affecting particular communities. Thus, we find in the record of the November meetings news of various highway matters of interest in this section but not hitherto reported.
One of the most interesting of these is the announcement that the war department is now preparing plans and specifications for the construction of the new road between Niagara and Detroit which will be made necessary by the building of the high dam on the North Santiam. The road project, it is explained, is planned for immediate post-war construction. In view of that prospect the highway commission has voted to proceed with the short state section between Niagara and Gates as soon as the army engineers begin on the federal section. That is news and will interest Salem and the Statesman as well as Central Oregon.
Another matter of interest was the approval of a list of survey projects contemplated for construction in the post-war program. No commitment as to construction was made but on the other hand, none of the surveys involves work not contemplated for immediate undertaking when the war is over. Included in the list are the following:

Table with 3 columns: County, Highway, Section and Length. Rows include Jefferson & Wasco, Warm Springs, Forest B'dary, Warm Springs Agency, etc.

RELEASING THE NEWS
As a result of the confusion over the issuance of news of the Cairo and Teheran meetings President Roosevelt has ordered that hereafter "no information having a security value in connection with the war will be issued in advance, for release to the public at some future hour." Instead all such information will be given out at the earliest possible moment for immediate publication and broadcast.
Here, at last, is a common sense plan for the treatment of the news. Now and again one newspaper or another will be "scooped" depending on its press time but the general effect will be to get the news out to the people more speedily than has been the case and that is the desirable thing.
On several occasions important news has been received over the press wires for release at 4:30 p. m. More than once this news has come in over 24 hours before the release time. Whether, under the president's new order this news would have been available at an earlier hour we may not know. We do expect, however, better management of news releases hereafter than has been the case in the past.

UNFAIR TO OFFICERS
According to reports from Washington, various promotions affecting U. S. generals in active service are being held up until the public reaction regarding Gen. Patton and his striking of the soldier boy has been more clearly determined.
For Gen. Patton's name is on the list and the powers-that-be don't wish to run the risk of incurring disfavor by giving the principal in the North African "incident" a raise in rank, when the American people would like to see him punished by demotion if nothing worse.
(Medford Mail-Tribune)
We agree with the Medford paper that the people do not like the idea of a promotion for Patton in the face of his demonstrated lack of self control. On the other hand, it is quite unfair to the other officers on the promotion list with him to hold up their deserved advancement while his case is being considered.
Even had there been competition for the job there could have been no better selection of a chief of the fire department than was made. Roy Fox grew up in the department under Tom Carlon. He knows the department and he knows Bend. We predict a long and successful career for him and a department fully up to the highest standards of the past.

Others Say...
SPREADING IT THIN
(Eugene Register-Guard)
Now the supreme court rules that it is proper for a union to attempt, by picketing with "Unfair" signs, to ruin a business which has no employees except its proprietors. Mr. Justice Frankfurter feels that it is quite fair for the union to pin the opprobrious adjective "fascist" upon men who decline to join a union for the privilege of working in their own little cafeteria.
The law, say lawyers, is what the court says it is. But justice and common morality, thank God, are less flexible and ideological. And in the long run justice and common morality can change what judges think is the law.
ESTIMATES "TALL" MEN
Cambridge, Mass. (AP)—Harvard researcher Francis Behn Riggs, author of "Tall Men Have Their Problems Too," estimates that there are between 8,000 and 12,000 men in America who are six feet five inches or taller.

Bend's Yesterdays
FIFTEEN YEARS AGO
(From The Bulletin, Dec. 21, 1928)
Meeting in the Pilot Butte inn, a group from Deschutes, Crook and Jefferson counties discussed plans to foster passing of bill in congress calling for construction of Benham falls reservoir.
The shortest day of year ushered in threat of winter, as weather prophets view red sky as sign of approaching storm and possible snow for Christmas.
Marble and Carl Erickson arrive in Bend from Corvallis for visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Erickson. Both are students at O.A.C.
Jack Chute, former athletic instructor in Bend schools, substitutes for Henri Q. Nicol, Bend high school coach, who was called to Eugene by the death of a brother.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(From The Bulletin, Dec. 21, 1918)
Preparing for a round of athletic events, the gymnasium of the Bend amateur athletic club is fumigated following its use as emergency hospital during influenza epidemic.
Members of the Loyal legion, organization of timber workers, received word that Clair Covert, president of the International Timber workers union, will arrive in Bend shortly to discuss feasibility of discontinuing the legion.
Highest price ever paid for cattle in Lake county goes to W. D. Robinett, of Summer Lake, when he received 10 cents a pound for 33 head of stock.
Heavy rainfall in the Cascades is blamed for failure of telephone and telegraph communication between Portland and Bend.

The Haunted Man or, The Ghost's Bargain

By Charles Dickens COPYRIGHT, 1843, NEA SERVICE, INC.

CHAPTER XIV
Night was still heavy in the sky.
The chemist's room was indistinct and murky, by the light of the expiring lamp; a ghostly silence had succeeded to the knocking and the voice outside; nothing was audible but, now and then, a low sound among the whitened ashes of the fire, as if its yielding up its last breath. Before it on the ground the boy lay fast asleep. In his chair, the chemist sat, as he had sat there since the calling at his door had ceased—like a man turned to stone.
Beyond the boy, so that his sleeping figure lay at his feet, the Phantom stood immovable and silent.
Was the form that stood beside it indeed Milly's? The quiet head was bent a little, as her manner was, and her eyes were looking down, as if in pity, on the sleeping child.
"Specer!" said the chemist, newly troubled as he looked. "Oh, do not bring her here. Spare me that!"
"This is but a shadow," said the Phantom; "when the morning shines seek out the reality whose image I present before you."
"Is it," replied the Phantom, "to destroy her peace, her goodness; to make her what I am myself, and what I have made of others?"
"I have said 'seek her out,'" returned the Phantom. "I have said no more."
"Ah, tell me," exclaimed Redlaw, catching at the hope which he fancied might be hidden in the words, "can I undo what I have done?"
"No," returned the phantom. "I do not ask for restoration to myself," said Redlaw. "What I abandoned, I abandoned of my own free will, and have justly lost. But for those to whom I have transferred the fatal gift; who never sought it; who unknowingly received a curse of which they had no warning, and which they had no power to shun; can I do nothing?"
"Nothing," said the phantom. "Ah! Can she?" cried Redlaw, still looking upon the shade.
The phantom released the hand it had retained till now, and softly raised its own with a gesture of dismissal. Upon that, her shadow, still preserving the same attitude, began to move or melt away.
"Stay," cried Redlaw with an earnestness to which he could not give enough expression. "For a moment! As an act of mercy!"
The phantom answered: "Seek her out." And her shadow slowly vanished.
They were face to face again, and looking on each other, as intently and awfully as at the time of the bestowal of the gift, across the boy who still lay on the ground between them, at the phantom's feet.
"Terrible instructor," said the chemist, "why has this child alone been proof against my influence and why, why, have I detected in its thoughts a terrible companionship with mine?"
"Thus," said the phantom, pointing to the boy, "is the last, completest illustration of a human creature, utterly bereft of such remembrances as you have yielded up. No softening memory of sorrow, wrong, or trouble enters here, because this wretched mortal from his birth has been abandoned to a worse condition than the beasts, and has, within his knowledge, no one's contrast, no humanising touch, to make a grain of such a memory spring up

Washington Letter

By Peter Edson (NEA Staff Correspondent)



Forthcoming disclosures by the senate Truman committee investigating the war effort will raise again the question of whether or not a war—particularly this present war—can be run efficiently at home, behind the lines.
In preparation now are reports on transportation and the building up of which will go into the whole matter of war department policies in these two fields.
Particularly, there will be studies in the procurement of motor trucks, industrial tractors and life trucks, as well as spare parts for all mechanized equipment. The purpose is to determine whether the army procurement services overordered, not only getting more equipment than they could possibly use, without regard to requirements for maintaining the civilian economy which must support and continue to supply the armed services.
War has always been considered a wasteful "business." A prevalent idea has been that the side with the greatest resources, the most men and materials in the field, the side which could withstand the greatest losses, the side which could afford to waste the most, was bound to win the war.
In a short war, maybe that theory of logists holds good. But in a war that stretches out as this one seems to be stretching, the idea is open to question. In its place is the theory that the side which can manage its resources of men and materials most economically is the side that can best withstand the drain of a long war and is the side that in the end will win.
Getting down to present cases, take the matter of trucks. In its forthcoming report on transportation, the Truman committee will take a strong position with respect of the purchasing of trucks by the army. The war department has asked for the production of hundreds of thousands of trucks in 1944.
Meeting these military truck requirements has meant depriving civilian truck operators of new equipment. The stockpile of new trucks that has been rationed out gradually in the last two years is now all gone, and only 100 new trucks were made for civilian use in these two years.
Another phase of this problem comes in the ordering of industrial tractors and lift trucks. Army warehouse space is said to be three times the total of all commercial space, and to move war supplies in and out of stor-

Negroes Confess To Store Holdup

Seattle, eDec. 21 (AP)—Two Negroes, James Wilson, 32, and Persia Williams, 38, confessed yesterday to the grocery store holdup last week which resulted in the death of Joseph Romagnoli and the wounding of his wife, Marie, and Frank Nesco, a roamer.
Williams, who was arrested Friday, admitted he had participated in the crime and mentioned Wilson as an accomplice. Wilson was arrested immediately and also signed a confession. Each blamed the other for shooting the grocer.

Influenza Closes College in Salem

Salem, Dec. 21 (AP)—Willamette university closed today until further notice because of a new flurry of influenza.
University officials acted after Salem health officer W. J. Stone reported 25 cases of flu had been reported in the navy's V-12 dormitory at the university. Dr. Stone pointed out, however, that 25 cases out of 600 students does not constitute a major epidemic.
Marshfield, Dec. 21 (AP)—Marshfield schools were closed today, owing to prevalence of influenza cases, but North Bend schools remained open although about 20 per cent of the students were absent.

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



Advertisement for BRANDIS THRIFT-WISE DRUG. Features a cartoon of Santa Claus and lists various products and prices: Desk Pens \$3.95, War Bond Books \$1.49, Dresser Sets \$4.00 up, E-Z Book Rest 89c, Perfume Trays \$4.19 up, Yesteryear Perfume \$1, Musical Boxes \$5.98, Photo Albums 98c up, Gift Stationery 59c up. Also lists Pottery Assortments 33c to \$1.49, Logging Truck Complete With Trailer \$2.59, Kiddie Car \$2.98, Toy Tea Set \$1.09, Table Tennis Sets \$5.98 up, Speedart Game \$1.98, Little Army Doctor \$1.19. Other items include Rubenstein's Heaven Sent Perfume \$1.00 & \$7.50, 5 Piece Desk Set \$7.25, Houbigan's Gardenia Concentrate \$9.00 & \$15.00, Thorens Cigaret Case and Lighter \$16.95, Topper Club Hair Brush For Men \$1.79.

Don't Forget to Buy War Bonds BRANDIS THRIFT-WISE DRUG

Microscope Magnifies Six Million Times

Austin, Tex. (AP)—University of Texas physicists are using a new electron microscope now to examine fine detail in infinitesimal objects which an ordinary microscope could not distinguish.
Dr. J. M. Kuehne, veteran professor of physics at the university, explained that beams of electrons are hundreds of times smaller

Heat Control System is Ready for Post War

Minneapolis (AP)—The Minneapolis-Honeywell Co. became one of the first companies in the country to tell about its postwar product with an announcement that it has perfected an automatic heat-control system which will eliminate drafts from the postwar home.
Charles B. Sweatt, Honeywell vice president, said the heating system is a low-cost adaptation of that used in schools and large office buildings to maintain constant room temperatures.
"Basic principle of the system," he said, "is to provide an exact amount of heat in a continuous flow. This differs widely from the present method where heat is supplied intermittently, causing

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Chiropractic Physician
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Advertisement for Dr. R. D. Ketchum, Chiropractic Physician, 124 Minnesota Ave. Phone 794. Includes a portrait of the doctor and text about health services.

Comic strip titled 'Freckles and His Friends' by Merrill Blosser. Panels show a boy in bed talking to a shadow, a boy thinking, and a boy singing 'Oh, if I had of an angel'. The final panel says 'Keep that up a while longer, and you will have!'.