

An Independent Newspaper—Established 1888

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Published every afternoon except Sunday at 444 Chemekeeta St., Salem. Phones: Business, Newsroom, Want-Ads, 2-2406; Society Editor, 2-2409.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

By Carrier: Weekly, 25c; Monthly, \$1.00; One Year, \$12.00. By Mail in Oregon: Monthly, 75c; 6 Mos., \$4.00; One Year, \$8.00. U. S. Outside Oregon: Monthly, \$1.00; 6 Mos., \$6.00; Year, \$12.

Salem, Oregon, Monday, August 15, 1949

An Autopsy on China

The government printing office announces that copies of "United States Relations with China," the "White Paper" just released by the department of state, are now available to the public through the superintendent of documents, government printing office, Washington, D.C., at \$3.00 a copy.

The White Paper is an autopsy of the failure of our policy towards China which places the blame on Chiang Kai Shek, who for many years has fought against not only brigand Chinese, war lords, then the invading Japanese and the communists, trained, armed and financed by Russia.

The White Paper is also a post-mortem of United States Oriental policy and diplomacy which has deliberately sacrificed the victory over the axis and played into Stalin's hands.

We sent top envoys to China as advisers and most of them urged Chiang to kiss and make up with the Chinese Reds, which because of bitter experience he refused to do.

The conclusions of the 1095-page White Paper is that the graft, corruption, incompetence make the Chiang government not worth more aid and it should be charged off as a lost cause.

What to do about the Chinese communists has not yet been decided. Recognition depends largely on the behavior of the Chinese Reds and their leaders have stated that they stand by Russia, first and last.

The unfortunate but inescapable fact is that the ominous result of the civil war in China was beyond the control of the government of the United States.

North Santiam Road Is Opened

The bright blue sky overhead perhaps reflected the bright future ahead for the North Santiam canyon. The event Sunday was the opening of the new North Santiam highway connecting the Willamette valley with the Deschutes country.

A simple cutting of a ribbon on the Breitenbush bridge by Detroit signified the cutting away of obstacles to travel through the gorge.

Not overlooked by those filling the roadway of the bridge for the ceremony was the significance of the new highway.

It was more than a tie between two sections of Oregon. It was the first step in the building of Detroit dam, too.

The dam that will block the course of the Santiam river will mean a change in the recreational area there itself. The lake that will be formed will submerge the present town of Detroit.

The snipping of the ribbon let loose the forces of travel, growth and progress.

THE WORTH OF A SMILE

One Young Boy Smiled, But Did the Other One?

Portland, Ore., Aug. 15 (AP)—Three-year-old Billie Cochran leaped into a coma today after regaining consciousness long enough to smile at his mother.

The boy has been asleep and partially paralyzed since June 18 when he suffered multiple skull fractures and a broken arm in an accident.

Mrs. B. B. Cachran, his mother, said the boy smiled yesterday at her on the 58th day of his strange malady.

She said she had received many letters from parents of children who suffered similar misfortunes.

"Most of them had children who recovered," she said. "I am very glad to hear about it."

Chicago (AP)—All the children at the party insisted Paul Sowa smiled a little when he looked at his birthday cake with its 11 candles.

But they weren't really sure.

You can't be sure of what a person with sleeping sickness can see or feel or hear.

Paul, who has lived in a daze since January of 1945, sat propped up in his bed with the sideboards. All the neighborhood kids clustered around him. They fussed about how well he looked. He stared at them as though he heard—but no one could be sure.

They sang "Happy Birthday" as the cake was brought in. A muscle in his solemn, childlike face twitched.

Maybe it was a smile.

Maybe some day he'll be able to smile and see and feel like the youngsters at his birthday party.

The doctors aren't too hopeful, though.



SIPS FOR SUPPER

Worth Trying

By DON UPJOHN

Several years ago, it is remembered, Salem, Oregon, got itself on the map in a big way when some bright boy in the Chamber of Commerce here sent a letter to the Chamber of Commerce in Salem, Massachusetts, suggesting that that ancient and honorable town change its name as the Salem on the coast was outstripping it in every way and deserved the honor of being known as the top Salem.

Now that Detroit, up in the canyon of the North Santiam has jumped into the limelight with its dedicatory ceremonies yesterday, photographers, governor, engineers and a long array of big names, we offer the suggestion to Ed Vickers, major domo of the canyon, that he now write a letter to the mayor of Detroit, Michigan, suggesting that that town retire under the shadow of a new name and let the Detroit here bask in its glory until such time as the waters of the great new man-made lake lap through its streets and finally enshrine them in the oblivion to which it is destined.

He might get a real fancy letter back if he'd try it. And we don't know anybody better equipped than Ed to do that very thing.

By way of economy, efficiency and a neat job when the county gets ready to raze the old courthouse building may we offer the suggestion that a week or so before the time comes to stage the project that arrangements be made to slip into the county jail by surreptitious means about a gross of hacksaws.

But while laboring devotedly for NEPHW, Strachan is passionately battling for a new dream. It is a plan for a great national program of rehabilitation, training and aid for physically handicapped of all kinds.

90 Years Don't Hold Him Down

Williamsburg, Mass. (AP)—To celebrate his 90th birthday, William R. Damon, Williamsburg's oldest resident, mowed his lawn, took a walk and ate some of the six boxes of candy friends sent him.

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

U. S. Must Choose Course in Indo-China

By JAMES D. WHITE

The French pulled one of their small garrisons back Friday from a point in Indo-China near the Chinese border.

If and when the Chinese communists arrive, the French will not be there to stop them.

Possibly for the benefit of American officials planning a new policy to combat communism in east Asia, this underlines the fact that Indo-China lies squarely in the path of any communism that spills over from China.

Yet earlier last week, just after Gen. Omar N. Bradley announced that France would get the bulk of American arms sent to Europe to contain communism there, France's President Auriol assured the Indo Chinese that France would defend them from any outside aggressor.

France would need help for this job, because for three years she has failed to beat down the native nationalist movement led by Ho Chi-Minh.

Ho is a communist who heads the unrecognized republic of Viet-Nam.

His leadership is popular enough among 25,000,000 Indo-Chinese that when the French set up Bao Dai as emperor of a rival state last June, they also called it Viet-Nam.

To fight Ho, the French still use more than 100,000 foreign legionnaires. Away from the main roads and cities, outposts are maintained by airlift. The rebels control the rest of the country.

It has been a costly stalemate, with the French unable to defeat the rebels and the rebels unable to drive out the French.

Through Bao Dai, the French are trying now to lure the Indo-Chinese away from Ho Chi-Minh. At this writing Bao Dai and what he stands for are not popular. France has granted him only nominal internal autonomy.

Rebel grenades go off within a few miles of his capital at Saigon.

Last March Ho broadcast that he was getting help, in his fight against the French, from Chinese guerrillas. No one doubts this, but on the other hand no one

Paul Strachan Gets Tribute For 'Handicapped Week'

(Ed. Note—While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation, the Washington Merry-Go-Round is being written by his old partner, Robert S. Allen.)

By ROBERT S. ALLEN

Washington—This is a long-deserved public tribute to a man of great courage and great humanity.

He is Paul Strachan, tall, deaf, and impassioned father of National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week.

Strachan conceived this unique humanitarian institution while flat on his back in John Hopkins hospital in September, 1940. It took him five years of unremitting effort to win congressional approval.

Now firmly established and warmly supported by leaders of government, industry and labor, NEPHW has made it possible for more than 500,000 handicapped men and women to obtain gainful work and the inexpressible satisfaction of being self-sustaining members of society.

In a few weeks, the 1949 NEPHW drive will be launched at a Washington meeting that will be addressed by President Truman. He has sincerely backed NEPHW from its start. Last year, both the president and then Secretary of State George Marshall took part in opening the drive.

Strachan will be in the forefront of this year's campaign as he was in all the others. Discussing the conception of NEPHW he says:

"It was born of recollections of World War I, when disabled veterans were pushed around and ignored as soon as the parades stopped and the bands no longer played. It was born of vivid and poignant recollections of thousands of other handicapped I had seen who were the discards of society."

"It was born of personal experience, as one 85 per cent physically disabled, and who, because of that disability, was cast upon the human scrap pile, despite a fierce and intense desire to live, to work, and to achieve."

But while laboring devotedly for NEPHW, Strachan is passionately battling for a new dream. It is a plan for a great national program of rehabilitation, training and aid for physically handicapped of all kinds.

Rep. Gus Kelley, D., Pa., senior member of the house labor committee, has already held hearings on the measure. But despite strong support in and out of congress, the proposal is encountering vigorous bureaucratic resistance.

But that is not daunting Strachan. All his life he has had to fight for his ideals. It took him five years to make NEPHW a reality, and he is prepared to battle the remainder of his days for his new dream.

"It will be worth it," he says. "We can't lose. Even if this program is not adopted in its entirety to start with, it will force advances that would otherwise not be achieved. Time and the cause of humanity are on our side."

Strachan inherited his unquenchable spirit from a Scottish father. His father was a crusading country editor in Michigan, Indiana and Georgia. He battled against political machines and for the underdog without fear or favor.

On one occasion, his press was smashed by a mob. The elder Strachan borrowed equipment from a nearby town and issued his paper with a scathing attack on the mob.

Paul Strachan was born in Perry, Mich., in February, 1892. At the age of 14, he had become an expert typist and, quitting school, took a roving job as an "expert demonstrator." In the years that followed, he visited many lands and engaged in many occupations.

He prospected for gold with two sourdoughs in Alaska; was a steamship agent in the orient; worked at various jobs in the Mediterranean, Australia, England and South America; and produced several movies in the U. S. As Strachan puts it, "there were few places I didn't get to and little that I didn't do."

One of the things he did was to become a boon companion of Jack London, famed novelist. They went on several trips together.

In World War I, because of physical disability, Strachan was barred from military service. So he helped set up the Bureau of War Risk Insurance and was one of its first officials.

Later, as a result of this work, he was active in organizing a union of government employees. This in turn led to interest in vocational training and he authored and put through congress the Federal Vocational Training act.

An auto accident severely disabled Strachan and sent him to Johns Hopkins hospital where he conceived National Employ the Handicapped Week. In 1942, to wage the long fight for congressional enactment of this project, he organized the Amer-



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

'Lightning Joe' Collins Earned His Nickname

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Gen. J. Lawton Collins, the new army chief of staff, earned his nickname—"Lightning Joe"—on many battlefields.

The graying, 53-year-old soldier—one of the handsomest men in the army—was one of the most colorful and energetic field commanders of the second World war.

He was tough and cool and won his battles first hand. He ran his famous Seventh corps as efficiently as any top business executive.

An all-around soldier, he could plan a battle, fight it through—and encourage his own front line troops with his presence.

This was his battle formula: "Outguess the enemy, keep him off balance, and never stop driving."

But "Lightning Joe," who never dodged a scrap, once got into a fight he wasn't looking for.

It happened in the "battle of the Bulge" in Belgium in December, 1944. The German breakthrough imperiled the American line of communications, and Gen. Eisenhower temporarily put his First and Ninth armies under the field leadership of Field Marshal Montgomery.

Monty immediately named "Lightning Joe" to head a reserve corps. This corps was to be used as a counterblow at the right time—when the German drive had been contained. But, in the meantime, it was under strict orders to refrain from attack.

One of the outfits in the reserve corps was the "Hell on Wheels" second armored division, led by Maj. Gen. Ernie "Old Gravel Voice" Harmon.

After a spectacular 100-mile night march, Harmon's tankers reached their assembly area near Celles, Belgium. Then they started to run into German outposts. Moving more swiftly than expected, the nazis were only a few miles from the Meuse river. If they reached it and took Dinant the American armies would be split in half.

Harmon immediately relayed this information to Collins, who asked: "What do you want to do, Ernie?"

"I want to attack, but we're under orders not to," said Harmon. "And there isn't time to get the orders changed."

"Go ahead, Ernie," said Collins. "I'll take the responsibility."

In a great grinding battle, fought in snow and fog, Harmon's division annihilated the German armor—and halted the German thrust.

Field Marshal Montgomery, angered at first because he thought his orders had been disregarded, sent a rebuke through channels. But when he learned the full story he sent his compliments to Collins and Harmon.

The battle had turned out to be one of "Lightning Joe's" best blitzes.

Cooler Than a Cucumber

New York, Aug. 15 (AP)—An enterprising reporter has dug up some unusual data about New York City's heat wave that the weather bureau doesn't supply.

While the official reading atop the Whitehall building in lower Manhattan stood at a record high of 98.1 degrees Thursday, the reporter went roving with a thermometer and recorded these temperatures:

103 degrees inside a policeman's shoes.

130 degrees on a tiled rooftop.

93 degrees in an air-conditioned elevator.

37 degrees in a plane 17,000 feet above the city.

After a quick thunderstorm sent the official temperature down to 81, the reporter said, the city was as cool as a cucumber—in fact, cooler. A vegetable stand cucumber was 92.

GIVING MILLIONS AWAY

Ex Reform School Boy Has Fun Spending Fortune

By PATRICIA CLARY

Hollywood, Aug. 15 (AP)—Movietown's newest millionaire is the old-fashioned model. He likes to spend money.

Ronald Alcorn, who used to be a penniless "bad boy," made his millions fast and is giving them away the same way. He doesn't have as much money as Howard Hughes, but he sure has more fun.

Most of the money men hear-abouts hug their money as if it were money, but Alcorn acts like he never heard of the surtax. He gets more joy out of spending money than anything.

"Oh, well," he shrugs. "I can always make more."

The 30-year-old wheat king, who never had enough to eat when he was a boy, gave a simple party for a bunch of under-privileged kids. It cost only \$5,000. Alcorn personally ordered a \$150 watch as first prize for pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey.

When he made his fortune selling flour to Brazil, he splurged on two Lincoln Continentals and a 15-room mansion in Wichita, Kans., with a block of garden.

"I always wanted a mansion," he explained. "Now I have one."

His secretary picked out a new desk for herself. Alcorn insisted on buying one twice as expensive and half as practical.

A decorator tried to order some furniture for his lush pent-house office. Alcorn said no.

Triple Trouble to Test Tears

Spokane, Wash. (AP)—Deputy Sheriff Harold Davis almost broke down and cried.

He had to dive into the river and swim ashore when his rowboat sprang a leak while he was searching for a body.

An angry dog backed him into a full bird bath, soaking him again, and tearing his pants.

A tear gas gun suddenly went off in his patrol car.

OPEN FORUM

Likes Morning Kiddie Shows

To the Editor: A very sincere note of thanks is certainly due to the group of Salem merchants who are sponsoring the series of Tuesday morning Kiddie shows at the Capitol theater.

These Tuesday morning shows are special programs suitable for children and run for about two hours. It was my pleasant opportunity last week to spend a morning free to shop, knowing that my little boy was in good hands and being entertained. And I certainly expect to spend the next few Tuesday mornings downtown, as well.

It would be a wonderful boon to mothers in Salem if these fine shows could be continued throughout the entire year.

I am sure that many other mothers join with me when I say that in the future I will patronize these forward-thinking merchants responsible for