



Narrow Escape—Traffic Officer Ray Pierce lifts the Right Reverend Richard H. Hammond of Oakland, Calif., from his car on the edge of Lake Merritt, in downtown Oakland, after the car had swerved off the street, overturned and flipped into the lake. Investigating officers reported the monsignor had apparently fallen asleep at the wheel. (AP Wirephoto.)

Bible Is Full of Good Movie Scripts, Says Producer-Parson

By BOB THOMAS

Hollywood, March 9 (AP)—Film producers should turn to the Bible in their search for vital movie subjects.

This advice comes from a fellow producer, but one cast in a different mold. He is Rev. James K. Friedrich, Episcopal minister and head of Cathedral Films. He has produced several dozen well-made films which are shown in Protestant churches, and to Catholics and Jews as well.

"The major film companies could do a great job for religion," Rev. Friedrich remarked. "But they are too wrapped up in making 'entertainment' pictures. The trouble is that the producers portray their own idea of entertainment. That's why we see so many race track pictures."

He indicated that movie makers could make exciting and significant pictures from Bible stories. But not, he added, the scriptures according to Cecil B. DeMille.

"Mr. DeMille's 'King of Kings' took decided liberties with the story of Christ," said the parson-producer. "I haven't seen 'Samson and Delilah,' but friends of mine say there is not much resemblance to the Bible story and there is some mystery as to what the message is."

The minister declared that Protestants have received little attention in film subjects.

"It is our own fault," he added. "We have failed to organize as the Catholics have. A picture about Catholicism has a ready-made audience."

He said that one of the few pictures about a Protestant preacher, "One Foot in Heaven," was "an insult. It showed the minister (played by Fredric March) as a blackmailer, forcing the town merchant to contribute to building a new church or be exposed."

Rev. Friedrich became interested in the idea of religious films while studying for the ministry at Virginia seminary. He realized the dramatic power of the scriptures and wrote a scenario on the life of St. Paul as his thesis.

Using an inheritance, the minister founded Cathedral Films. His first and only feature film, "The Great Commandment," was bought by 20th-Fox for \$170,000. Profits from the sale were put back into Cathedral, which is not a money-making venture.

Unfortunately, 20th-Fox did little or nothing about releasing "The Great Commandment." "I don't believe it was a deliberate sabotage," said Friedrich ruefully, "but it is too bad that the picture's message cannot be heard."

He said that many churches opposed the use of films in teaching, considering movies "an instrument of the devil." But they have been won over.

His figures recorded the growth of religious films — in 1940, only 25 of the nation's 250,000 churches had their own sound film projectors; today 50,000 are so equipped.

Pendleton's City Manager Rehired

Pendleton, March 9 (AP)—City Manager C. V. Signor has his job back again today after he was asked to resign a week ago by five councilmen "in the best interests of the city of Pendleton."

Last night the city council quietly cancelled its request for his resignation as a result of a long meeting with "interested citizens" before council time. Signor's resignation made last Thursday was never accepted by the council.

The council offered only this reason: "Due to a discussion before with Mr. Signor, at the request and in the presence of interested citizens, the council has decided not to accept his resignation at this time."

Census Shows Buying Power

Businessmen throughout the country are vitally interested in the information on income which will be collected during the 17th decennial census of the United States in April, 1950.

These data will provide market surveyors with precise information on the relative buying power of various sections of the country. Advertising campaigns, sales quotas, bank financing of old and new enterprises and similar economic programs will depend on the income information collected in the census.

In the 1950 census the amount of income from three sources — wages or salary, own business, and sources other than earnings — will be reported for a sample of one in five persons 14 years old and over and one family in five. The reason for obtaining these data on a sample basis is that it would be too costly to attempt to get the income information from everybody in the country.

Information on the income of men and women living in urban and rural areas, and working at various types of jobs will be tabulated by the census bureau for the nation, for regions, for states, and for metropolitan areas. Family income tabulations will also be made along similar lines and will include also statistics for each county and each urban place.

It is expected that the income figures obtained in the census will reflect some of the momentous economic changes which have taken place in the United States during the past 10 years. An indication of the magnitude of some of these changes is revealed by estimates from a recent special census bureau survey which showed that the income of wage-earner families has more than doubled since the last census.

Letters Little, But Error Big

Vowels make a difference when names get in the news, and the wrong vowels in the right places led to a mistake in identification of the principal in a burglary case.

Monday two men were arrested by the Marion county sheriff's office for the theft of bonds from a Keizer man's home. At that time, one of the men was identified as a Jack Troxell of Salem. The city directory lists only one, an employee of the Oregon Pulp & Paper company. But he was not the man held by the sheriff's office.

The complaint in the case, taken before district court on Tuesday, identified the man charged with the crime as Jack Troxall.

A check of the sheriff's office Wednesday showed that the prisoner signed his name, Jack Truxall.

The Capital Journal regrets the unfortunate implication that Truxall and Troxell were the same individual.

Wheel Spin on Snow May Be Outmoded

Des Moines, March 9 (AP)—Your future car may not get stuck in the mud or snow as often as your old one.

Archibald S. Alexander, assistant secretary of the army, revealed in a speech here today that the army ordnance department is having a new type of differential developed for it that will prevent one rear wheel from spinning while the other stands still.

"When this is perfected," he said, "it will not only take an army truck out of the mud. It should also enable General Motors and Chrysler and Ford to give you and me a vehicle which will not so often get stuck in mud or snow."



President Again—Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek is shown as he told a group of high officials in Taipei, Formosa, that he had decided to resume as president of China. Behind Chiang is a painting of Dr. Sun Yet-Sen, the father of the Chinese Republic. (Acme Telephoto.)

Miss America at '42 Divorces Comedian

Hollywood, March 9 (AP)—Film Actress Jo Carroll Dennison, 25, "Miss America" of 1942, divorced comedian Phil Silver Wednesday on her testimony his staying out late at nights was "quite unbearable."

When he was in the New York play, "High Button Shoes," he frequently left her home alone all night, the beauty told Superior Judge Ingal W. Bull. His staying away became worse when they came to California, she said.

They were married in 1945 and the actress moved out of their home here last Oct. 19, leaving Silvers there with his mother-in-law.

Under a property settlement, Miss Dennison got \$11,500 cash, a car and their home, from which the comedian has now moved.

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