

Clouds Break for Little Joe Out at Boys' School

By NANCY ASHBAUGH

What happens to a child today when he has been charged with the murder of his parents?

In the case of Little Joe, age 11, it was the finding of a court last year, that "this homeless child and presently with no parental care of guardianship did not commit a felonious killing of his former parents."

Behind the headlines this story made, there hangs a tale of sustained cruelty which began for Little Joe at the age of 3 when his unstable mother deserted him to run away with another man.

Most of the past year, which saw him committed to MacLaren School for Boys at the age of 12, has been a happy time for Little Joe.

Here today he plays chess, has learned to swim and since having an eye operation has even learned to enjoy reading.

On one of the first evenings at the dinner table at the school another child at the table complained that all he had done was run away from home and still he would have to stay at the school for the same length of time as some boys who had even killed people.

On this occasion Little Joe bent his head, twisted his averted face into a grotesque mask and cried silently. A counselor said that no one would know he was crying he hid the emotion so successfully. Little Joe had this habit when he entered the school. Later he cried silently if another boy was corrected and all of the time at first he remained mute and said nothing ever.

Little Joe of the slender build and weighing less than 100 pounds attached himself to one of the counselors and all the time he lived an apology for his presence.

When he finally spoke he assured the counselor that he had no desire to live and continued to bite his fingernails severely. He was assigned the duty of cleaning the front and back stairs at the reception cottage.

At the age of 3, Little Joe lived with his paternal grandparents after his father had divorced his runaway mother. Then his father married again.

The new stepmother told friends in the community that his grandmother had spoiled him to such an extent that she and her new husband were going to consider it their duty to take Little Joe so that he could learn to mind.

His father worked in the forests down in southern Oregon as a logger much of the year, and his stepmother spent most of her time reading although by this time Little Joe had a small half-sister. When his stepmother wasn't reading she and her mother and the young sister enjoyed a close and constant relationship.

Little Joe was an irritation at all times to his new mother and so she handled him severely in a physical way. When she was reading, he was expected to sit on a chair since she could not enjoy reading with noise about her.

Frequently when neighbors visited the home, he would be in his own room where he had been told to stay. Since the only heat in the home came from the stove in the living room, Little Joe's room with his door kept closed was cold.

When the boy was 5 a neighbor watched the stepmother decorate a Christmas tree in the living room but he was told to stay in his room with his own tree. This was an empty thread spool with a small sprig of green tucked into it.

One method of punishment meted out when he entered the meticulously clean house and got dirt on the floor, was to stand outside in the snow until his feet were cold enough to remember the clean floors.

When he entered with sand on his shoes he was taught to balance himself on the sides of the wood-box to remove his shoes. This was difficult since his eyes needed medical attention, even then, besides the fact, that he was a highly nervous child.

Arbuckle to Head Rotary

George A. (Sharkey) Arbuckle is expected to be the next president of the Salem Rotary Club. He has been placed in nomination for that office without opposition and if elected will succeed Reynolds Allen, whose term expires at the end of June.

Others placed in nomination include: James J. Walton and Claude Miller, vice-president; Robert W. Fenix, secretary; Elton H. Thompson and Donald E. Woody, treasurer; William Bush, Robert Sprague, William I. Williams, George Roseberry, directors, two

to be elected; James C. Stone and Garnie Cranor, directors, one to be elected. Clarence N. Walker, a Rotarian for 26 years, past president of the Asheville, N.C. and Rome, Ga., clubs, will be the guest speaker for Wednesday's luncheon meeting at the Marion. He will discuss "An Investment in Friendship and Service."

COMMUNIST ACTIVITY DISCUSSED

MANILA — U.S. and Philippine leaders Monday discussed the island republic's role against communism in southeast Asia. Army Secretary Stevens and Gen. John E. Hull, U.N. commander in Korea and U.S. Far East commander, conferred with President Ramon Magsaysay.

Facility Lists Cruise Dates

Cruise dates for Salem's three Naval Air Reserve AAU squadrons, who train week-ends at the Naval Air Facility were announced during the past week-end. All cruises are to be held at the Salem installation.

First squadron to take its cruise will be AAU 891, which will start the two-week cruise on March 22 and end it April 4. Squadron AAU 893's dates are April 19 through May 2, while the date for AAU 892 is May 17 through May 30. A make-up

cruise is set for June 7 through June 20. Two of Salem's squadrons during the past fiscal year placed second and third in the nation in competition among the other Naval Air Reserve squadrons. Squadron AAU 893 was in second place and the third place spot went to AAU 891. The other local squadron, AAU 892, was in the 12th place spot in the nation.

Young Keizer Folk Welcomed by Families

KEIZER — Mr. and Mrs. John Squires, 4539 Niles Ave., are the parents of a girl, born Jan. 22, at Salem General hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Neil E. Blumenstein, 3925 Rivercrest Drive, are

the parents of a boy born Jan. 25 at the Salem General hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Tunnell, 4205 Cherry ave., are the parents of a girl born Jan. 24, at the Salem General hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Zeller, 1680 Keizer Road, are the parents of a boy born Jan. 22, at the Salem Memorial hospital.

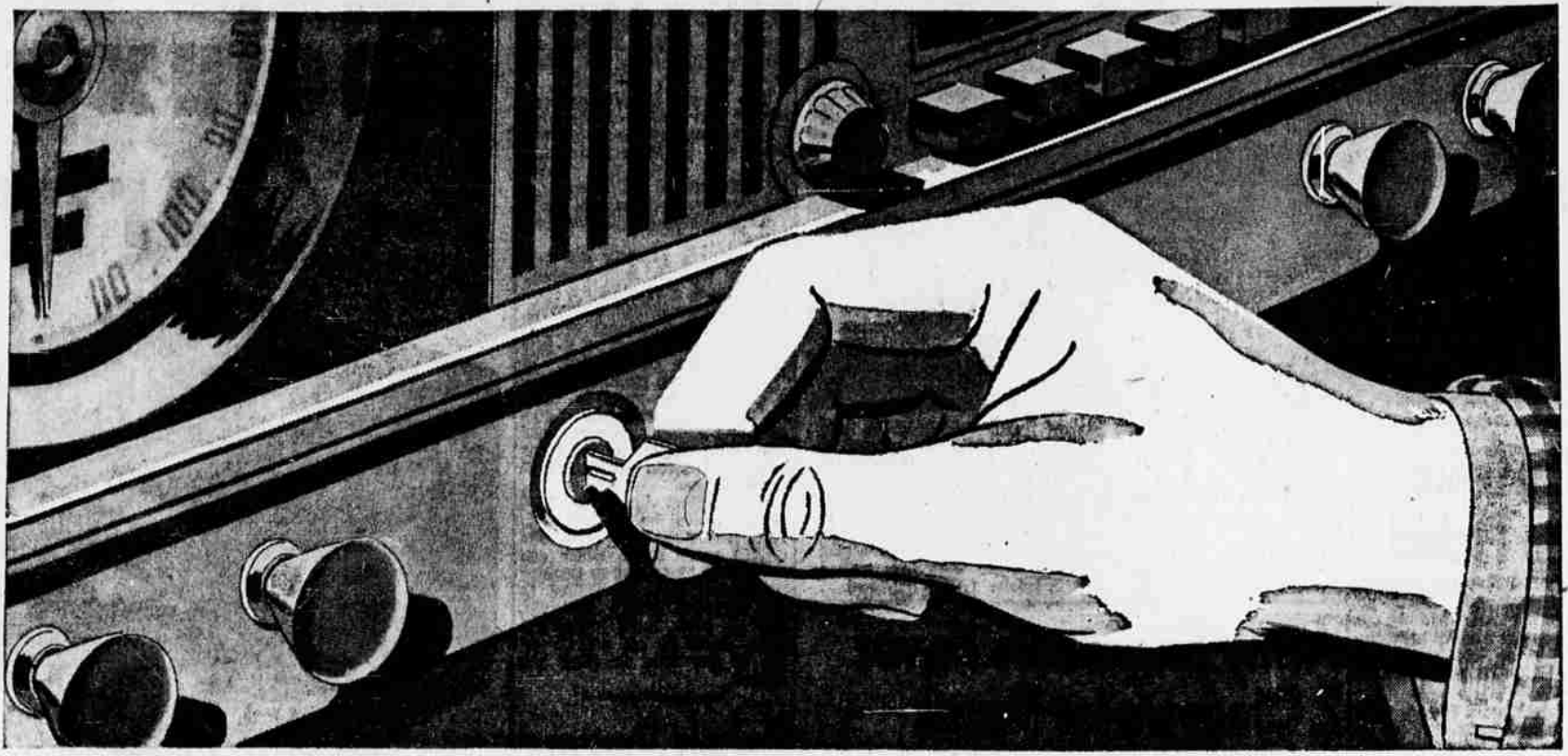
New Masonic Lodge Being Formed Here

A new Masonic Lodge, to be known as Vista Lodge, was started toward organization in Salem Saturday night. A petition signed by 25 men will be presented to the Grand Lodge of Oregon.

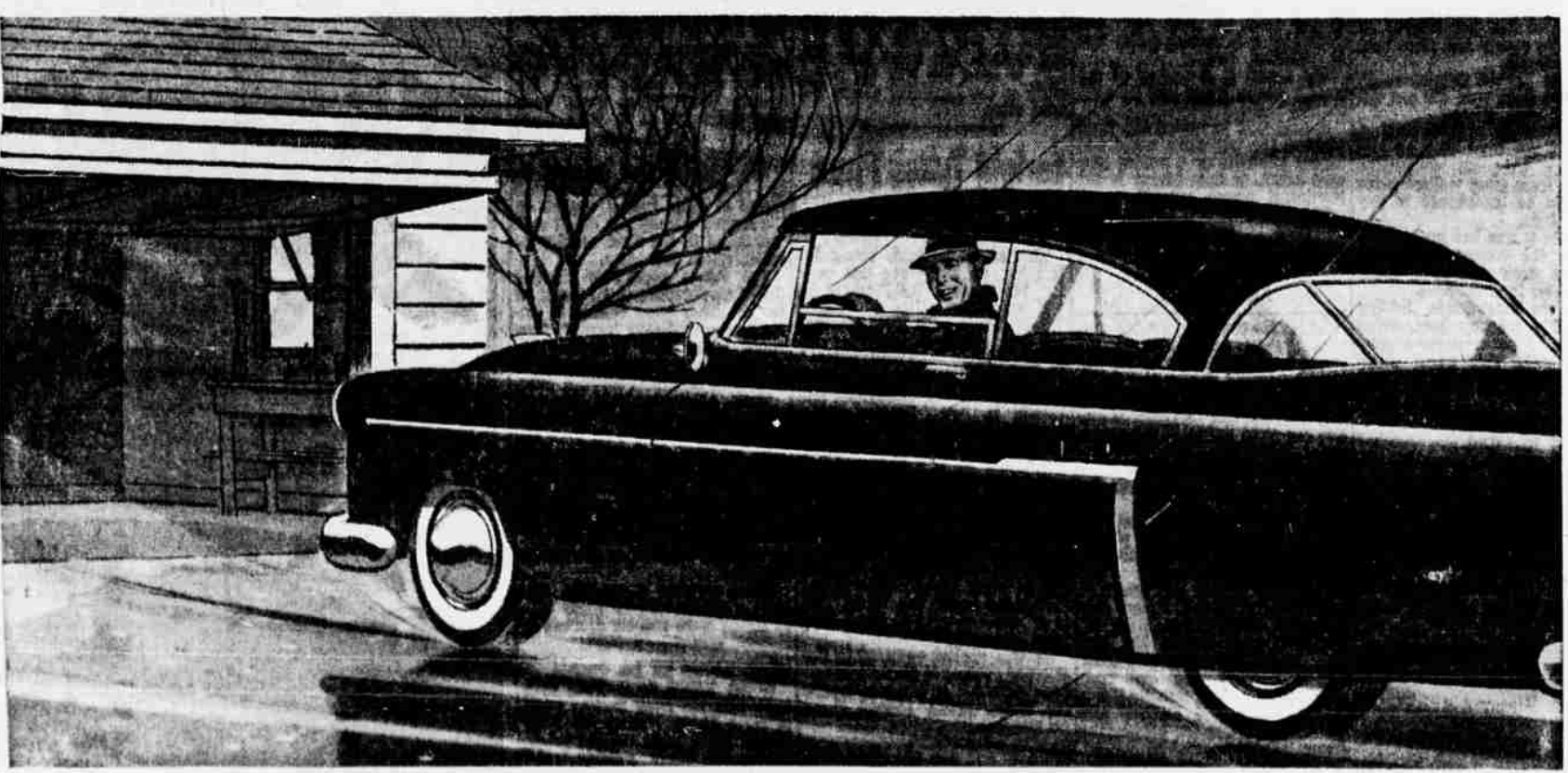
If approval is given by the Grand Lodge petitions for membership can then be accepted. Beaver Hall will be the meeting place. J. R. Williams was named Worshipful Master, R. G. Hoffman, Senior Warden, H. A. Rosebraugh, Junior Warden, J. B. Manning, treasurer, and W. F. Herald, secretary.

Since World War II, France has built about 400,000 dwellings and Germany about 1,700,000.

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