

SNARLS FROM AN OLD-TIMER

By H. B.—DEML

Missed the bus to Corvallis and was picked up by the chaplains' pickup.

"Mighty fine guys to work for, these chaplains," said the driver, Dominic Arbia.

One reason he likes them, I suspect, is that they pronounce his name right. Our early sergeants who were not so hot on pronunciation, used to shout out "Abria" and "Arabia," and "Arab" and about everything except Arbia, which is simple enough, phonetically speaking.

Finally Arbia grew kind of sullen about it and didn't answer at first when his name was called wrong.

Well, to get to Corvallis, which I did, by degrees, Arbia said he was on the way there, but would I mind if we first stopped at a camp chapel and picked up some hymn books? Certainly not, I said, and helped him carry them. A goodly number, too.

"We must take this pulpit along, also," he said, so I helped with that. Then he had to drop in on the chaplains and one of them wanted a ride somewhere else. Next we delivered pulpit and hymn books and on the way into Corvallis we called at a house and carried out a victrola and a pile of records and loaded them into the truck. When we parted, at the Times Square of Corvallis, Arbia and I thanked one another.

Well, when an oldtimer like myself goes to town he certainly does cut up, and this was the day following pay day, to boot, and only my second time out of camp since I arrived on June 28. The other time I went to the Oregon State radio station and got you some information. This time I went to the public library and read, for your benefit. So now just clip this page and save yourself the trouble of answering all of the questions that the folks bother you with, as regards our nearest town and the state where they've put us.

The name "Corvallis" is derived from a Latin phrase, says the Oregon book in the American Guide series done by the WPA writers' project, and means "heart of the valley." Altitude, 227 feet. Population, 7,585. Seat of Benton county, on west bank of Willamette river, just below its confluence with Mary's river. Westward green hills rise into the lower slopes of the coast range and to the east are the sharper crests of the Cascade mountains.

The first settlers came in 1845 and the land was bought from the Calapooya Indians. In 1857 an ordinance was passed prohibiting people from riding horses on the sidewalk and our MPs are enforcing that ordinance today, so look out.

To get around Corvallis you don't have to know the town. All you need is history and arithmetic. One way streets are numbered and the other way they are named for the Presidents, beginning with Washington and ending with Grant, some 17 presidents in all.

If the girl's mother wants to know where you're going, tell her that you are intensely interested in seeing those old millstones in the pretty, secluded park down by the river. They were quarried in France and shipped around the Horn and hauled from Portland by ox-team in 1856 and then set up in a mill used more than 60 years.

Benton county, where we are, was named for Thomas Hart Benton, the United States senator who first espoused U. S. control of Oregon, but he didn't know how much of that control there would be in 1942. Albany was named for New York state's capital, Mon-

mouth for Monmouth, Ill., Toledo for Toledo, Ohio, which in turn was named for the grim and fascinating city in Spain, the city of the keen Toledo blade. Mary's river and Mary's Peak were named either for the first white woman to ford the stream or for a New York woman, sister of the man who did the naming. The peak, 4,057 feet high, the highest mountain in the coastal range, is 17 miles from Corvallis. From the summit, you can see, on a clear day, Mount Rainer, Wash., Mount Hood, Ore., and the Pacific ocean.

The partly bare hill, west of the lower end of Camp Adair, which I mentioned last week as a good place from which to see Mount Hood, in clear weather, is named Coffin Butte, because it's supposed to look like a coffin.

Salem is not named after the Massachusetts city where they burned witches, although the origin must be the same. It comes from the Biblical name, Sholom or Salem, meaning place of peace.

* The Columbia river formerly was known as the Oregon and is mentioned in the poem "Thanatopsis," by William Cullen Bryant, who for 50 years was editor of the New York newspaper that had employed me for 18 years.

—Or lose theyselves in the continuous woods

Where rolls the Oregon, and hears no sound
Save its own dashing.

The first trading post in the Oregon region was established by members of the John Jacob Astor Fur Co., in 1811, at Astoria. Old John Jacob was, of course, the founder of the family whose very name has long signified wealth and social standing in New York City. Men coming here from New York and the metropolitan area also may care to know that the late Edwin Markham, who lived so long on Staten Island, a part of our city, that we considered him our own good, gray poet, was born at Oregon City. Of course those who regularly attended summer symphony concerts in New York will know that the most constant conductor, Willem Van Hoogstraten, has been conductor of Portland's orchestra.

Oregon is the only state for which a transcontinental highway was named and the Oregon trail began at Independence, Kans. Oregon is the ninth largest state and only Iowa has a greater degree of literacy.

"New York," says the WPA book on Oregon, "has buildings and money and bustle and congestion; but that 'lovely, dappled up-and-down land' called 'Oregon' has an ever-green beauty as seductive as the lotus of ancient myth."

Speaking of antiquity, there used to be orcodonts around here. In size they ranged from the coyote to the elk and they had the molar teeth of a deer, the side teeth of a hog, and the incisors of a carnivore.

Here's to the soldier of forty and past,
Who has gone the pace and gone it fast,
And here's to his girl of twenty-and-two
Who sits by his side with eyes so blue,
But all he can do is buzz and buzz
And tell here what a wuzzer he used to wuz.
—Post Beacon, Riverside, Calif.

Back Soldiers
We've already made some progress
And we know our cause is right
In smoke and din
We've tough he-men
Who've just begun to fight.

While in many far-off countries
Seeds of freedom have been sown
Yet we've some boys who'll sleep forever

'Neath a soil that's not their own.
Work and tears, and blood, and money

That's the price we all must pay
For the world we have to live in
Won't be built in just one day.

We'll send fighter planes and pilots,
High-speed tanks and heavy guns,
Strong from fighting fronts in Egypt

To the Arctic's frozen sun.
The shot, and shell, and flaming Hell

Will be the soldier's lot—
To you and I who stay at home,
Let's give with all we've got.

Be it effort, time or money,
Sacrifice or will to do,
Send the word to men who are fighting.

"We at home are backing you."
—By Harmon.

CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

WITH THE CHAPLAINS IN-CAMP ADAIR

Plans are now being completed for the dedication of the Post Chapel. Post Chaplain Captain Harmon has suggested September 6, the first Sunday of that month. The chapel is building No. T-5-223.

Chaplain Newman has been assigned to the hospital area and is conducting services there each Sunday morning. Catholic masses are also said in the hospital area and other sections. Also Jewish services with Pvt. Morris Stavsky, lay leader in charge at the hospital.

The first religious services were held in the tent area on June 28 by Chaplain Jorgenson. On that same date Father John Dunn, of Corvallis, held the first Catholic mass.

The first Jewish service was called by Chaplain Jorgenson, who turned the services over to Pvt. Stavsky. Thirty-eight enlisted men were present. All of these earlier services were held in the open air.

AN UGLY WORD

David said, "All men are liars," then after thought, he admitted he had spoken hastily. Most men mean to be honest, but are often misunderstood. So few ever take time to walk out of their skins into the other man's skin in order to get his viewpoint. It is always so much easier to pass a harsh judgment than it is to be tolerant.

You can call a man a liar or a hypocrite in a fraction of a second, but it takes months to really get his viewpoint. Severity is easy... tolerance is difficult. Many men seem to be lying when they are only reporting the facts as they see them.

There is the old story of the three blind men who went to "see" an elephant. One felt the beast's trunk and ever afterward declared that the elephant was like a rope. Another felt of the great leg and

declared to the end of his days that the elephant was like a tree. The third rubbed his hand over the side and went to his grave believing that the elephant was like a house. Each was right so far as his observations went but each had a limited viewpoint.

We call men hard names because we do not know them. Hot words never result in cool judgment and harsh judgments never bring about smooth relations. To say that "all men are liars," is to condemn oneself with the rest of the world or be guilty of arrant egotism by claiming exemption from the generalization.

L. V. HARMON,
Post Chaplain
Camp Adair, Oregon.

KITCHEN COPS

I think that I shall never see,
A job as sloppy as K. P.

K. P., where greasy arms are pressed,
With pots and pans against the chest;

K. P., where stand the chefs all day,
Barking orders at their prey;
K. P.'s, who may in evening wear
A spot of gravy in their hair;

K. P., where all the yardbirds hop
To nonchalantly wield a mop.
Poems are made by fools like me,
And so's the list for that damned K. P.

—Pvt. D.D. in Brookley Bay Breeze.

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