

MEMORIES OF BANDON BEACH

Many memories come to me of morning rambles by the sea. When the rosy fingers of morn reached high and gaily painted the eastern sky.

Sand dunes glowed in the golden light as the sun chased away the shades of night.

It silvered the wings of a gull flying low, its white breast gleaming like drifted snow.

Crested waves racing in to shore, came in with a faintly muffled roar. Fairylike tracery left by the tide of seaweed on pebbles where agates hide. The raucous cry of a lonely loon came echoing from the old lagoon. The low complaining of the sea came softly, moaning eerily.

As though old Neptune in the briny deep was weary but restless and could not sleep.

N. V. Maben, 4021 W. 106 St., Inglewood, Calif., a former Coquille resident.

Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C. BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

OPA. The next problem to be faced by the House is the consideration of the extension of the Price Control Act (OPA). The Senate has already acted on this legislation and incorporated in the bill both of the cost of production amendments—the Wherry Amendment prohibiting the setting of prices on farm products below the producers' cost of production, and a similar amendment authored by Senator Thomas of Oklahoma, applying to meat processing and other manufactured food products.

I have attended some of the hearings held by the House Banking and Currency Committee on this legislation. The stories of the abusive administration of the OPA Act are enough to give the most hardened supporter of Chester Bowles, the OPA Administrator, a severe chill.

As I have said before, the Congress faces an impossible situation with reference to the OPA problem. Price control is necessary. The Price Control Act is basically a good law. The difficulties, shortages and persecutions that have resulted stem from executive orders and administrative practices. We can incorporate a few more checks and safeguards against such mal-administration, but we cannot write administrative details into the law. The troubles with OPA are troubles born in the executive department of the government, and must finally be corrected there. President Truman will surely soon be compelled to overhaul the functioning of his price control agency.

Summer Heat. Washington has enjoyed an unusually cool and delightful spring. Until this week, the weather has been very similar to the very best Oregon spring and summer climate, but the high temperature and high humidity combination is going full blast now. It is extremely unpleasant.

Apparently most of the urgent business of Congress can be finished by the end of this month. It is anticipated that a recess will be declared shortly after July 1 until after Labor Day. I hope, therefore, to be able to spend half of July and all of August in Oregon.

Eisenhower Visit. Preparations are being rapidly completed here for the triumphal return of General Eisenhower. He and a number of other officers who are returning with him will be taken in a procession from the army headquarters offices in the Pentagon Building to the Capitol, where he will appear and speak at a joint session of Congress.

This will be a great event here, and I suspect the pomp and ceremony of it will be enjoyed by everyone with the possible exception of General Eisenhower himself. I had the good fortune to spend some time with him last fall in Paris, and know him to be a very unassuming man and a person who obviously does not care for this sort of thing.

General Eisenhower is a great man and a great commanding general. His feat in leading our armies to a complete victory over Germany in exactly eleven months is the greatest military achievement in all history. There have been other great military victories, but none with operations conducted on such a vast scale or under more difficult conditions. Great as this achievement was, I think the fact that General Eisenhower was able to win victory with such a relatively small loss of men, considering the millions involved, is the thing for which he should be honored most. Victory at a high price is still victory, but victory as won by General Eisenhower and his armies with an absolute minimum loss of life is sweet indeed.

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Another Letter From Harold Stevens

Below is reprinted a letter that Harold Stevens, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Stevens of this city and whose rank is Radar M 3/c, wrote to his aunt, Mrs. C. Clinkenbeard at North Bend, in regard to the Jap suicide aerial bombing attack made on his vessel recently in the Pacific theatre. It was written from Terminal Island, California, where the Zellars is undergoing repairs:

As you may know by this time, we arrived the morning of the 31st, were met at the pier by a brass band, a welcoming committee, speeches, radio singers and flag wavers. Refreshments were served to all hands and a great time was had by all. They really put on a spurge, the reason for all the fuss being the publicity for the 7th War Loan and the drive for workmen in the shipyards. There have been a lot more ships hit as badly as we were but we happened to get here at the opportune time.

There isn't too much to say about our experiences except that we have participated in the Okinawa shindig from the start, arrived there several days prior to invasion day and blasted the shore for about three weeks when this Jap plane got a good range and bearing on us and really bored in. Things really broke loose for a while. We laid there almost four weeks after that, getting fixed up to go to sea again for the ride home.

Didn't lose any of our Radar gang, one of them (Church Syres, my particular buddy) had one hand badly smashed and cut by shrapnel but the rest of us received very minor cuts and bruises. Of course among those lost I had a number of good friends.

Prior to getting busted up we had been under air attack several times. At the final accounting we had four certain planes to our credit, plus the one that got us. Of course he was finished but I think he claimed us rather than we claiming him. Also we knocked down or helped knock down at least five more.

In our travels since leaving Seattle we have been to Pearl Harbor, Ulithi (in the Carolines) Okinawa, Saipan and Eniwetok. Didn't get down to the Philippines.

Have been keeping busy since getting in. Had to strip the ship of ammunition and practically everything loose to get ready for the workmen and the big open house which was held Sunday. We have moved into barracks on the base during our stay here. They told us yesterday that our address would be this base but today have decided that we must still get it through the F.P.O. as before. We are at Roosevelt Base, Barracks 30, Terminal Island, Calif.

Really had a huge crowd down here Sunday. Guess that was one of the first times in history that a warship has been opened to the public during wartime. There were 200,000 to 250,000 people on the docks during the day. Was impossible to get anywhere near that number aboard one "can" so only relatives and friends of the crew were permitted aboard. Too bad you couldn't have been down here. Would certainly have liked to show you around.

Well, guess that is about it for now, almost time to go on watch. Probably lots of things I have overlooked, but will tell you all about it when I get my leave.

Eagle Auxiliary Notes

Margaret Spores and Molly Coffman contributed to the birthday fund at the meeting of the Eagle Auxiliary Friday, June 15. Adeline Miller won the Bank Night drawing. Sister Hattie Gaffey is the acting secretary during the absence of Sister Hazel Flannery, who is enjoying a vacation in Missoula, Montana. The death of the mother-in-law of Sister LaVerne Bonnell was reported.

Auxiliary members are purchasing new chairs for their room.

"It Pays To Insure In Sure Insurance." See Ernest R. Smith, office Roxy Bldg. Phone 97.

Lans Leneve In Hospital At Bandon

Lans Leneve, whose "Out of Doors Stuff" and "Bare Facts from Bear Creek" columns are so greatly enjoyed by hundreds of Sentinel readers, is as disappointed as the editor and our readers will be to learn that neither one of those columns will appear for the next few weeks. We will let Lans tell why, which he does in the following letter received Monday:

I am very sorry but I am unable to send in material for either of my columns this coming week.

Perhaps you have heard of my accident, last Thursday. The car was driven by an enterprising young man who failed to dodge a rock in the road. The result was a plunge over a 150-foot bluff for me. Heard the car was demolished—and so was Lans, or practically so. My head has many stitches from one very bad wound. In addition, there are lumps and abrasions everywhere, a black eye included.

My body, too, suffered an awful beating. In spite of tape completely encircling my torso, I am so sore I have a very difficult time to turn over or sit up. X-rays have been taken to ascertain if I have a broken back or neck. Have been hospitalized four days now. Hard to say when I'll be out again. Just as soon as possible I'll send in my material for the two columns. Right now this is not "the column that's different" but "the writer that's different." You'd really have to see me to appreciate that fact. I am always in the habit of gazing down on my writing but now, flat on my back, I am gazing up at it.

One thing I am positive of and that is, the fact that that nightmarish plunge over that cliff will live forever in my memory.

Will you please, in some manner, notify the readers of "Bare Facts from Bear Creek" and "Out of Doors Stuff" that I'll soon be with them again. Be seein' you. Best wishes, as ever, Lans.

Nancy Boles Receives Prize At University of Oregon

Nancy Ann Boles, daughter of Norman W. Boles of Coquille, received a bachelor of arts degree in English from the University of Oregon at graduation exercises Sunday, June 17. She also was awarded the Gertrude Watson Holman Memorial gift fund prize, the announcement being made commencement weekend. The fund was established by the Gamma Phi Beta sorority mother and friends of the late Mrs. Rufus Holman.

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