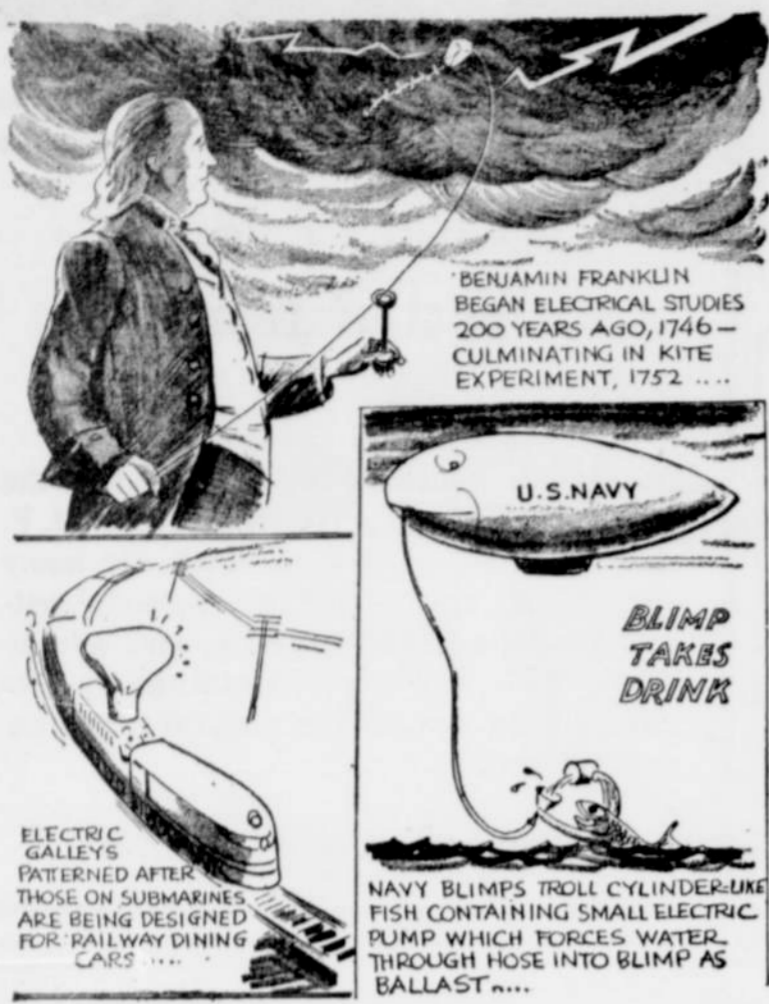


Facts File . . .



Father Protests Sentence Meted Out To Son In Navy

Orlando, Fla.— When John L. Whitehurst, fresh from the fringes of hell, walked down the gang-plank of his ship in Seattle last July 24, he represented what the American public has been told was a symbol of national patriotism. He had been in nine major sea engagements, participated in 13 invasions and had one citation for conduct under fire. Although his chin was smooth his service bar showed he had been upholding the fighting standards of the Navy before Pearl Harbor.

Forty-eight hours later this lad of the sea had been sentenced to 15 months in a federal prison because his weary body and jangling nerves failed to respond when it was time for him to go aboard his ship. He had just plain overslept.

When he reported at the berth that afternoon his ship was gone. He appealed to the Military police and they told him it had berthed at another point on the other side of the harbor. He asked the Shore patrol for information, as any good Navy man would have done.

Although, according to testimony offered at his trial, his ship did not sail for hours after he reported, Whitehurst was thrown in the brig. Next day he was sentenced. His testimony was sustained by Aaron Emerson, pfc., U. S. Marines, who attempted to help him locate his ship and by Carol Baker, Marine MP, who recalled Whitehurst asking him to call the Naval Shore Patrol. Lieut. W. R. Studley of the Seattle Naval Station testified Whitehurst could have reached his ship long before it sailed had he been aided by the shore patrol instead of being thrown in the brig. All witnesses testified Whitehurst was sober and of sound mind when he came to them.

Four months later D. L. Whitehurst, father of the lad of 20 years, was able to unearth the fact

that his son had been court martialled and was being held in prisoner barracks in Bremerton. His son, having honor for the family name had continued to write that he was on shore duty of highly military importance. When the senior Whitehurst went into the fight to save his son from what he considered unfair justice he took with him the support of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the governor and the Florida congressional delegation.

"I have been told in a letter from the Thirteenth Naval District which is Seattle, that I should not be willing to drag my son through the limelight of publicity, just because I did not like the pay-off for patriotism," Whitehurst said at his Tallahassee home. "I have been told by a member of congress that publicity on the matter is not advisable."

Whitehurst said he thought the incident concerned the future of America too deeply to be considered in a personal light. He said if conditions had reached a point in America where young veterans could be sentenced for a single offense of over-sleeping that the time had arrived for parents and those who run the government to have an understanding. He suggested that parents of veterans who have been treated like his son join in an effort to iron out such misunderstandings before America

"I, like thousands of other patriotic parents, sent my son away to war because I thought it was the proper thing to do. The Navy puts a blemish on him for life and gives him plenty of grounds to become bitter toward the nation he fought to defend. American patriotism cannot thrive under such miscarriages of justice and I do not think parents of this nation will accept such treatment for their sons."

The naval court that sentenced Whitehurst was composed of the following men: Captain Frank Luckel, U. S. Navy, Retired; Commander Park W. Willis, Jr., Medi-

FINAL GOALS FOR STATE SEEK HIGH OUTPUT IN 1946

Another year of high output from Oregon's farms and ranches is asked for in 1946 farm production goals for the state, just announced by R. B. Taylor, chairman of the state AAA committee and Oregon director of the field services branch USDA Production and Marketing administration.

The goals were determined by a committee of Oregon agricultural officials and the USDA on the basis of desirable trends and state production capacity. For most crops, the goals call for acreages about the same or larger than in 1945. With the exception of dairy products, goals for livestock and poultry are somewhat lower.

Increased outputs of feeds and grains are requested. The goals are: corn, 50,000 acres, up 25 per cent from 1945; oats, 450,000 acres, up 10 per cent; barley, 260,000 acres, up 7 per cent; all tame hay, 880,000 acres, up 4 per cent; wheat, 1,000,000 acres, up 3 per cent; rye, 35,000 acres, up 6 per cent.

Goals for food crops include dry beans, 1,000 acres, no change; sugar beets, 17,000 acres, no change; potatoes, 46,000 acres, down 16 per cent. Although no Oregon goals have been set for vegetables for processing, attention is directed to national goals of 25 per cent reduction in snap beans, 2 per cent cut in sweet corn, 8 per cent cut in green peas, and the same acreage of tomatoes.

Goals for cover crop and legume seeds are: Hairy vetch, 55,000 acres, up 2 per cent; Willamette vetch, 70,000 acres, 24 per cent less than last year's combined Willamette and common vetch acreage; Austrian winter peas, 30,

000 acres, up 7 per cent; common ryegrass, 80,000 acres, no change; alfalfa, 10,000 acres, up 43 per cent; red clover, 20,000 acres, up 53 per cent; alsike clover, 25,000 acres, up 150 per cent; ladino clover, 10,000 acres, up 61 per cent.

Continued need for maximum output of dairy products is reflected by the goal for 1,445,000,000 pounds of milk. Five per cent fewer eggs—37,640,000 dozen—is recommended. On poultry numbers, the goals suggest 3,286,000 hens next January 1, 5 per cent less than January 1, 1946, and 2,859,000 hens by this coming March 1 through heavy culling. The goal of 4,251,000 chickens raised is 8 per cent less than 1945. All of the poultry goals, as finally approved in Washington, are somewhat less than Oregon recommendations.

A 15 per cent reduction in turkeys raised, down to 2,221,000 birds, is recommended. The goal of 20,000 sows to farrow this spring, compared with 22,000 in 1945, was announced earlier, with Oregon officials hoping for more. The goal for all cattle and calves on farms next January 1 is 1,150,000 head, a 3 per cent decrease during the year.

A campaign to acquaint all farmers with the goals will be conducted jointly by the OSC Extension Service and AAA Committeemen in connection with the making out of AAA farm plans in February and March.

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Flames sweeping through grass or dry ferns may destroy jobs and homes of only a few decades from now.

Look beneath the grass or ferns to discover why. In forest areas, you'll likely find tiny trees rooting there . . . seedlings just born which should form the forest of tomorrow.

It's particularly important to protect those seedlings, while they are young and so easily

destroyed. From them must come payrolls, and taxes and the foundation for thriving communities . . . perhaps the homes of your own children.

So be careful with fire . . . always. Never burn fields carelessly. Be careful of debris disposal. Remember that grass fires are often forest fires, too. Remember that forest fires start not only in timber, but also at the grass roots, where new forests are beginning their useful lives.

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