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ARTHUR EDWARD POWELL
Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

WATER AND FIRE FIGHTING

Many a fire which should have been quickly extinguished has gotten out of hand due to the inadequacy or failure of the local water supply. The best fire department on earth is next to helpless if water facilities are inadequate.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters, 85 John St., New York City, has issued a leaflet on "Water Supply for Municipal Fire Fighting," which contains a great deal of informative and valuable data. The leaflet observes that the question of adequacy of water supply "is one which did not receive nearly enough attention in the past. Even today full realization of the needs of the fire service is not as evident as it should be."

The leaflet points out that it is of importance for every fire department to know the ultimate capacity of its water system—and that is particularly true of small communities. It is a mistake to use too many streams, which cut down pressure to where none are effective, instead of a small number properly located. Where the pumps in a water system have a capacity of 2,000 gallons a minute, not more than eight 2½-inch lines should be used.

Adequacy of water supply, furthermore, is not simply a question of the total amount of water available. Having enough hydrants to permit fighting the fire without use of excessive long hose lines is equally important, and many towns are faulty in this respect.

A town's water needs change as it develops. Sections that once were occupied by well-spaced, single-family dwellings may become the location of multi-storied apartment houses. This results in lowered pressures and inadequate water flow.

These are but a few of the points the National Board leaflet covers. Every community wishing to bring its fire fighting facilities to maximum efficiency should obtain a copy.

DIVIDE, ISOLATE, CONQUER!

Hitler's policy, which he first described in detail in Mein Kampf, and which he has followed with terrible success in subjecting the small, peaceful nations of Europe to the Nazi dictatorship, can be perfectly expressed in three words: Divide, Isolate, Conquer.

That policy has been emulated by those who main purpose in life is the socialization of the \$13,000,000,000 electric light and power industry of the United States.

Some excellent example of this have recently occurred in Oregon, where public ownership advocates are attempting to persuade the voters to establish People's Utility Districts, generally known as "PUDs," to distribute power from Bonneville dam. In the Eastern part of the state there is a private utility which is largely isolated from other systems. This utility announced that it would buy power from Bonneville and pass the savings along to the consumer—something that has been successfully accomplished, to the benefit of the ratepayer, in other parts of the state. A county in that utility's area was shortly to vote on a PUD proposal, and it appeared foredoomed to defeat. But two days before the election a Bonneville representative appeared on the scene, engaged radio time, and made a speech in which he said that Bonneville could not sell the private company power. In other words, if the people wanted the benefits of Bonneville power they would have to authorize a PUD. The PUD carried. Furthermore, in setting up this PUD, the public ownership strategists made sure that it included only territory served by this one utility. Divide, Isolate, Conquer!

In Western Oregon, a county voted down a PUD some time ago, but the principal town in the county voted in favor. The next PUD proposal put on the ballot excluded all of the county that had voted No before—and included only the single town and small surrounding territory. The PUD, of course, carried. Again—Divide, Isolate, Conquer!

It would be possible to write

volumes concerning the ruthless tactics of the public ownership fanatics. It has become abundantly clear that their main goal is not merely lower rates and better service. Their real goal is socialization of the industry, no matter what the cost, or how unfair the tactics employed. And never forget that when government goes into business, all the taxpayers must help pay the bill for that "favored" few who are given "special" services.

How long will this be permitted at a time when we need every possible tax dollar for defense—and when we need the full strength of all our industries, of which power is among the most vital and progressive?

Trip By Ship To Africa Told

Continued from Last Week

Anyway, we landed! A boat carrying two of our trunks was caught on the sand bar and the last we saw of it, it was still out there waiting for high tide, thank heavens, we were on dry land even if it did smell to high heavens. On our way in we passed native dwelling places along the shore and there were thousands of yards of fish nets hanging out to dry. The natives do a great deal of fishing here. There are small islands dotted in the river which you could almost throw a stone across, and these are crammed full of little huts and small boats where the natives live. The native boats are a hollowed log and fairly skim across the surface of the water. They are very graceful little crafts and are just wide enough for one person to sit in. A man from Firestone, Mr. Smith, and the General Manager's daughter, Miss Bernice Seybold, met us and took charge of the situation. All of our hand luggage had been brought in the same boat in which we came in so "Smitty", as he is called here, had it all brought up to the apartment over the Bank in Monrovia for safe keeping until a truck could come in from the Plantation the following day and bring it out to Firestone for us.

By this time, 2:30 P.M., we were nearly starved so Smitty and Miss Bernice Seybold, "Bernie" ordered "Chop" (the native word for food here) for us at the apartment. This apartment is maintained over the bank and a colored woman, Sarah, from the U.S. and a native boy are there all the time to prepare meals and wait on any Firestone people who happen to be in Monrovia as it is impossible to obtain food in the city otherwise. We ate and started for the Plantation, some 42 miles inland, and arrived at the General Manager's home at about 5:30 P.M. (I shall tell you about the town of Monrovia next letter). Met him and his wife and they are lovely people and have a beautiful home. It was 7 P.M. when we left there and Smitty took the Farleys to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kolkie, he is an electrician here, and they stayed with them until a house could be secured for them. They took us to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Godley to stay until we could also get a house. It seems that new employees are arriving before houses are ready or before old employees go away on a vacation, consequently, it is necessary to double up in some instances until a house is ready for you. Godley is the Secretary for the company down here and is Joe's immediate superior. They always try to place you in the home of someone with whom you will work so that you can become acquainted with them and also become acquainted with the work.

The Plantation embraces over 75,000 acres at present and new trees are being put out all the time. There are several residential districts around on the Plantation. Where the Farleys stopped is known as Fish Creek and is about a mile from the Central Office. Where the Godleys live is the newest development and has the newest and best houses and is known as Harbel Hills. It is a beautiful development and there are now 16 houses

there, each situated on the top of a little hill. The Godleys have the best location there and their house is on the top of the highest hill and they command a view of the Plantation for miles and miles in every direction. The rubber growth is small here as it is new so their view is almost limitless. I have taken some pictures and hope I can get them developed before they spoil. One of the men here is going to teach me to develop my own snaps so maybe I'll be able to save a few of them. I am also going to send some films, negatives, and on and see if Ray can do anything to them to improve them. Please let me know if they were mildewed or spoiled when they arrived.

We had no hand luggage and not even a toothbrush the first night but the next night our hand luggage arrived at Godleys. We did not get our trunks or barrels and boxes until over a week later as they were held in customs at Monrovia. If they had been unloaded at Marshall they would have come up on the Lighters (small barges and boats on which cargo is unloaded to the Firestone Landing (Harbel Landing) and the Firestone Custom's man would have handled it for the small cash consideration of five shillings. Small money talks here as far as the natives are concerned. In a day the common laborer, working in the rubber, earns about enough to buy one Coca Cola for his days work. How would you like to work for those wages.

To Be Continued

At The Crossroads

By Ella H. Leonard

"Can you buy these stamps?" a foreign accented voice asked at the substation window in Medford.

"No, you will have to go to the main postoffice for that," was the answer.

"Yes, I know . . . This war . . . It's kind-a hard . . . I want to do what I can to help. It costs 70 cents for a letter from the Dutch East Indies here and 45 cents from Holland . . . A long drawn sigh escaped. "My sister and husband live in the East Indies. Their children are in Holland. Of course they want to hear from each other and the only way they can is through me. Each writes to me and I write it on. Censored? Sure. They get censored each way. For the 17½ cent stamp from the East Indies and the 15 cent stamp from Holland, our postoffice will pay me 5 cents. That's all. Then I buy our stamps to send them on. By air-mail. That takes a month to six weeks. Otherwise it would take several months at the best."

A number of postal employees, and customers waiting to be served, examined the curious stamps written on in 6 languages to guarantee payment as if it were a note. It was about 2x3 inches.

"How long have you been in this country?" a boy asked. "Ten years. Yes, I'm a citizen. I took my papers right out. That is why I came here, to have a voice to express myself. In Holland a woman has no say. I'm married. Married an American. My mother was an American. I have two boys, 5 and 8. I don't have them to have war. That's all the people over there know, all they've ever known. I know, I've traveled all over. But I want to raise my boys good. (The meaningful intonation of "good!")

"This country . . . You don't know

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what you've got. It's so different, safe, peaceful. You don't have to be all time afraid. You have everything. (Her face shone with a wondrous light. Her arms spread as if she were embracing the nation.) Everything to make you happy, to make you want to live. This valley, this river . . . It is the most beautiful place on earth. There's nothing like it anywhere in the world: In Europe, Africa—I know, I've been all over the world. It's like heaven. Our home is right on Rogue River. It's beautiful! The view is so lovely.

"Living? We have a farm there. No. Not rich soil. (She laughed.) Poor soil, very poor. But we MAKE it rich. We work hard, build it up. We have 150 chickens. Get 18 or 19 cents for eggs. We live.

"What did I do in the old country? I am a dentist. (Her wide, joyous smile revealed beautifully kept teeth, healthy gums.) No, I don't practice here. They don't let me. In Holland we were in good circumstances. I didn't have to do hard work. But it's good for us. I don't mind. Here, I want my boys to help make this country GOOD. But I do not want them to be just cannon fodder and simply carry out war plans that never end."

She left for her car—an honest, sturdy, shabby farmwife, with a radiant personality.

Local Army Boy Transferred To Fort Belvoir, Va.

Ernel Shaver, one of our local boys, who enlisted in the 29th En-

gineers and has been stationed in Portland, has been transferred to Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Ernel has also made his first rating and has been made a Corporal.

He made his rating just 2 months from the time he enlisted.

He has been working as a clerk in the office while in Portland and is to be sent to school for a number of weeks when he arrives at Fort Belvoir.

Stanley Jones accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Middleton home to Algoma Sunday.

Legal Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR JACKSON COUNTY

In the matter of the Estate of MARY C. HEMSTREET, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been duly appointed and has qualified, and is now acting as the executor with the Will annexed of the estate of the

above named decedent. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified and required to present same, duly verified as by law required, to the undersigned at his office, 210-211 Craterian Building, Medford, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice.

Dated and first published this 13th day of February, 1941.

P. J. NEWMAN
Executor With The Will
Mary C. Hemstreet, Deceased.

26—Feb. 13, 20, 27, Mar 6.

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