

News of Service Men

FIRST LIEUT. LANSE PITTS—

Headquarters, 13th AAF, Philippines—First Lieutenant Lanse Pitts, son of Mrs. Jennie B. Pitts, 915 Queen Anne Street, Medford, was recently presented the Air Medal for "meritorious achievement while participating in sustained operational flight missions in the Southwest Pacific Area." The presentation was made at an advance 13th AAF bomber Base in the Philippines.

Lieutenant Pitts is a B-24 Liberator pilot and plane commander, with the "Bomber Barons," veteran heavy bombardment group with more than 800 missions to its credit.

He entered the AAF in February, 1943, and received his pilot's wings and commission on April 15, 1944, at Douglas, Arizona. He joined the "Jungle Air Force" in November, 1944.

Lieutenant Pitts is married. His wife, Barbara Jeanne Pitts, nee Barbara Fleischer, in Central Point.

1st Lieut. John Neilson—

With the 321st Bomb Group in Italy—At a V-E Day ceremony the 321st B-25 Mitchell Bomb Group of the 12th Air Force was presented its second War Department citation, highest honor attainable by a combat unit, and among those sharing the honor is 1st Lieut. John H. Neilson, who has served as a bombardier with the twice-cited group.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Neilson, live at 436 Bartlett St., Medford, and his wife, Nola, lives at 502 Park Ave., Medford.

The official citation published in Washington lauds the B-25 unit for an attack against shipping in Toulon harbor through days following the invasion of southern France. The giant battleship "Strasbourg," cruiser "La Galissonniere" and a submarine had been moved into position to use their heavy guns against the Allied invading forces. In one smashing attack Mitchell bombers of the 321st sent all three warships to the bottom, an unprecedented feat in medium bombing annals.

Lieut. Neilson is a former student at the University of Oregon.

HENRY KILBURN—

Aboard a Battleship Somewhere in the Pacific—Henry Kilburn, seaman, first class, of Central Point, Ore., gunner on a 20-mm gun is a member of the crew of this ship which has seen action over 100,000 miles of sea from Kiska, in the Aleutians, to Okinawa, at the doorstep of Japan. Kilburn is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Kilburn of Central Point. He has a brother, Harold, a photographer's mate, first class, in the Navy, entering the service in April, 1941. Kilburn has been with his ship in the assault and occupation of 12 Pacific islands, his most recent action being at Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

MEDICAL DISCHARGE—

Pat Legg received a medical discharge from the Army at Fort Baker, Calif. after spending the past 4 months in hospital at San Francisco bay area. He is now at home with his wife and two children at Silverton. They plan to make their home near Portland. Mr. and Mrs. Legg were former residents of Central Point.

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News Oddities



Locals

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Basil C. Green, Rt. 1, Box 87, Central Point, July 7, 1945, a girl, nine pounds, at Sacred Heart hospital.

Born to Pvt. and Mrs. Gail St. Arnold, Rt. 2, Box 52½, July 6, 1945, a girl, six pounds, at Community hospital.

Mrs. Powers spent Saturday in Grants Pass with her daughter, Thelma Hamilton, who returned home with Mrs. Powers and spent Sunday.

Reported wounded in Pacific region are Pfc. Mildred M. Henney of the army, husband of Mrs. Edna L. Henney, Route 1, Central Point and Robert Henry Organ, of the Navy, pharmacist's mate, second class, USNR. Mother, Mrs. Lillian C. Epperson, Prospect.

Mrs. Rose Hodgson of Butte Falls, was in Medford Monday, having an infected eye treated.

Mrs. Beryl Carleton and daughter, of Yreka, are visiting Mrs. Carleton's sister, Mrs. Leslie Davis and family for a couple of weeks.

Mrs. Donald Coleman, who has been visiting friends in Iowa, arrived home Wednesday evening.

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The Munn shoe shop is having a new coat of paint.

Mr. C. C. Taylor of Sedrowooley, Wash., who was born here and spent his early life here, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Paul Anderson and other relatives in the valley. Mrs. Anderson is Mr. Taylor's niece. He expects to spend the summer here.

A group of American Legion men have been working evenings and when ever they can find time on the new hall. All members, who can do so are urged to come out and help.

Ellen Gardener, and daughter, Venita, of Medford, were in Central Point Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Russel, of Eagle Point were shopping in Central Point early Monday morning.

Mr. Charles Jantzer sold a saw mill to a Mr. Mead of California. Mr. Mead has bought property above Prospect on Mill creek and will set up the mill there. Mr. Jantzer also sold a saw mill to Mr. Foster, who is setting it up on Antelope.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. John W. Sharp, July 9, 1945, a boy, 9½ lbs., at Sacred Heart Hospital.

The Golden Link class will meet with Mrs. J. B. Carr in Medford Friday at 2:00 P.M. Members will meet at Wilson's Hardware store for transportation.

Donald Hurley, a recent graduate of San Jose Bible College, spoke at Christian church Sunday morning. He was also guest speaker at the Eagle Point church in the evening. Mr. Hurley and wife and baby are leaving this fall for Jamaica to be missionaries. Woodrow Phillips and wife plan to go to Jamaica next year.

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DISCONTINUANCE OF SHORT OVER-NIGHT PULLMAN
SERVICE AFFECTS . . .

But It Means More Sleeping Cars for Veterans

Operation of over-night sleeping cars from Portland to Southern Oregon points and to Coos Bay points will be discontinued with the last trip from Portland, Friday, July 13th and from destination points, Saturday, July 14th, by Order No. 52 of the United States Office of Defense Transportation.

The new regulations eliminate all Pullman sleeping cars operating for distance of 450 miles or less.

The reason for this order is that additional sleeping cars MUST be obtained to provide accommodations for the returning veterans from Europe, who are reaching Atlantic ports in large numbers. These veterans are coming home for discharge, or for furlough before going on to fight again in the Pacific. They deserve the most comfortable transportation service we can give them.

No new sleeping cars have been built since Pearl Harbor. Over half of the sleeping cars have been in exclusive use by the military. But they were not enough for this new task. The O.D.T. order resulted.

While discontinuance of short distance sleeping car operations will cause inconveniences to many people, we feel sure that the citizens of Oregon will approve this effort to better serve the men from overseas to whom we owe so much. We know the families of these Oregon boys who are coming home will have no question as to the merit of this new regulation.

As far as Southern Pacific is concerned, our guiding principle has been "The Military comes first," and we are cooperating 100 per cent in carrying out the provisions of the above O.D.T. order. With nearly 20,000 Southern Pacific men and women in the armed forces we, too, have a real and personal interest in the welfare and comfort of service men and women.

So you may know how this order applies to Southern Pacific service generally, we show below the Pullman sleeping car service on our lines which will be discontinued after the last trip from Portland, July 13th, and from destination points July 14th. Coach service will still be available between these points.

SLEEPING CARS TO BE DISCONTINUED

PACIFIC LINES		TEXAS & NEW ORLEANS LINES	
BETWEEN—	AND	BETWEEN—	AND
Portland	Southern Oregon	New Orleans	Lake Charles
Oakland	Dunsuir	Houston	New Orleans
Portland	Coos Bay	Houston	Shreveport
Oakland	Reno	Houston	Dallas
Fresno	Los Angeles	Houston	San Antonio
San Rafael	Eureka	Houston	Austin
Los Angeles	Sacramento	Houston	Corpus Christi
Los Angeles	Phoenix	Houston	Brownsville
		Galveston	Dallas

S·P

The friendly Southern Pacific

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Griffith, Raymond and Patty spent the week end at Union creek. They went on to Crater Lake Sunday. It was a lovely trip, nice and cool. Mr. Griffith is in the U.S. Forest Service.

Miss Elaine Kilewer is working in the office at Alexander's. Miss Kilewer is spending the summer at the Gilbert Cays home. She attends the San Jose Bible school and is an old friend of Mr. and Mrs. Cays.

St. Sgt. Alvin J. Coleman is expected home soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dunn and two children of Portland are visiting relatives in Medford and Central Point.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hesselgrave and Mr. and Mrs. Williams spent Sunday at Coleteln.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Weldon, accompanied by Mr. Weldon's parents Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Weldon of Grants Pass and Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Roller made a trip to Crater Lake on the Fourth. This was the first time for most of them to see Crater Lake. They also saw a bear with three cubs.

Mrs. Margaret Dow Nixon is visiting relatives in the valley. She arrived Sunday morning from San Francisco. She reports that she has apartment just across the hall from Mr. Mitchell and wife. Mrs. Mitchell is the former Frances Faber.

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