

Pickin' Pears

News, Gossip, Comment
From Camp White

By L. J. "Tick" Malarkey
Every once and a while when we punch out "Camp White" on the typewriter we get to thinking about the trout fishing trip that some of us at Astoria took the good General George White on when the Oregon national guard was camped at Clatsop years before Pearl Harbor.

A year or two before the game commission had released several thousand steelhead and silver salmon fingerlings in Sunset lake. He shot ducks on this water and had a portion of it leased. Sherman Lovell, Astoria can dealer, an ardent fisherman, discovered that these trout had grown up since their release and that furthermore toward evening they would rise to a fly.

General White was invited to go fishing. In the afternoon a northwest wind usually kicks up and the water becomes choppy. Such was the situation the evening the head man of the Oregon national guard took his post, tackle in hand, those years ago by.

The army man began his fun. He connected with a trout and lost it. The same thing happened twice more. Finally the wind and the general and his fishing gear became hopelessly and helplessly entangled.

This writer has heard some pretty good two-fisted cussing around logging camps, sawmills and seining grounds, but never has he heard a rival to General George White. Not vulgar, not obscene—just plain All American cussing that never repeated itself and never stopped for at least 10 minutes. When it was out of his system he untangled and cast again—this time he landed and continued to do so until a limit was taken.

"That's all they needed," he said.

And in Medford, General White will always be remembered. This station is named for him.

After the Mothers day services last week, Chaplain John Cumisky wanted me to meet the two charming young ladies who sang in duet, and the equally charming lady who accompanied them. This was arranged and after a moment's visit it developed that Mrs. Robert Corlies, the accompanist, was the daughter of Artie Hawkins who lived at Ilwaco, Wash., for so many years and whom I knew as a kid and through young manhood.

Bob Corlies brought his family to Medford some years ago and is with the Bear Creek orchards. The family make their home at 379 O'Gara street. Daughter Phyllis and Gertrude Lewis are a talented pair who have promised to come again to sing at Camp White.

Ilwaco is across the bay from Astoria, and as kids going to high school and college we used to be employed at Sand Island by the Columbia River Packer's association, horse seining for salmon during the months of June, July and August. This method of taking salmon is now illegal, but while it lasted many a college kid owed part of the expense of his education to this summer employment.

Well we remember the afternoon we landed 180,000 pounds of chinook on one tide and worked long past midnight getting the catch off the beach and to the fish acow, where it in turn was hauled by launch to the Astoria cannery.

Met up with Irving Kenney in the coffee canteen, presided over by Vera and Gladys. The lad gets over the ground in a wheel chair now, but for 22 years he was a cop in Everett, Wash. When WW I was declared young "Irv" Kenenlisted in a cavalry outfit and was on the Mexican border with it. Later they were dismantled and he was assigned to artillery. Greybeard Kenney is one of the newer transfers to White from Barnes at Vancouver, Wash., and as far as he has gone likes all that he sees out on the plains. Plans on doing some work in the hobby shop just as soon as he gets squared around.

"Come on Daddy, let's go fishing. I want to."

Chaplain Henry Anderson looked up to his teen age daughter, Mary Lou, swinging a

baseball bat and dressed in jeans. It was quitting time a few days ago. So the chaplain went fishing—he hasn't much sales resistance when it comes to Mary Lou—the youngest of his three daughters.

From Central Point eighth grade Mary Lou Anderson will graduate in a few days. And in September a very important year looms ahead—she will be a freshman in high school.

Vernetta Brainerd. That is the name of the lady who sat down with a sigh in a coffee shop worrying about her project for the women of Rotary. "Tubby" Deane introduced me and after a while it developed that Vernetta Brainerd took thousands of pictures during the war years out here at Camp White. Seems that civilians were employed during construction days, and all had to wear badges with their printed pictures on same. That was Vernetta's job—taking those pictures.

Later when husband Phil joined the army as a technician she went with him from post to post. Incidentally Phil was discharged a sergeant major, which in "Private M's" book is the finest rank that Uncle Samuel can give. Today in Medford he and his brother operate Brainerd's Photo and Camera shop.

This is a suggestion to Vernetta Brainerd. You women of Rotary could have a project out here on the plains of Camp White which would last for a century or more. In brief, plant some shade trees. Soft maple would do good and grow fast.

From those Eagle Point boosters comes an invitation to attend their square dance jamboree to be held in the high school gymnasium the evening of May 26. With Lee Ragsdale calling the numbers, the good people up Eagle Point way say that have entertainment which is unsurpassed.

Proceeds of the jamboree go to the improvement of the high school athletic field. Folk dancing every third set.

The Zuni Indians are famed for their silver and turquoise jewelry, employing designs developed before the coming of the Spaniards in 1540.

Better Highways
Needed in Country

Washington, May 24—(U.P.)—State highway officials appealed to congress today for help in stopping national "strangulation" by traffic congestion.

Present roads are totally inadequate for either city or interstate travel, they said. They called for a long-range federal-state program to give the country better highways.

They testified before a senate public works subcommittee on a bill to authorize \$961 million a year in federal aid to states for highway construction. The house last week approved a bill to authorize \$646,500,000 a year.

JUST SALES TALK
Detroit—(U.P.)—Cecil Bruton, realtor, doesn't put "sold" signs on the new houses he sells. His read "too late." Better psychology, he said.

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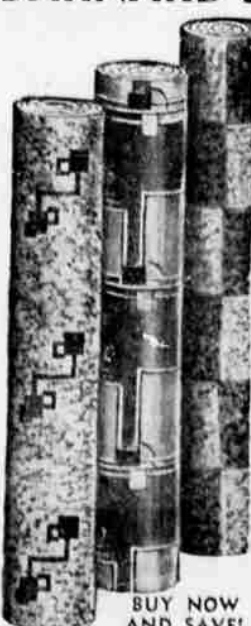
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