

## Plain Utah Citizen Has Look of Misery After Turning Dirt Piles Into Fortune

New York — (U.P.) — Jack Turner, a mudface-plain, leather-tough citizen from Utah who grew up among cattle, sheep, cactus, and acres of throwaway dirt containing a worthless mineral called uranium, is in town with a look of misery on his face.

He is struggling under a monstrous burden: 21-million dollars. And it's growing bigger all the time. Being a multi-millionaire can weigh down a fellow like... well a yoke of solid gold.

Turner came out of the Army broke at the end of World War II. Before the war he had made a so-so living mining vanadium around his native Moab, Utah. When he was drafted, he sold his four mines. One of them, in Wild Steer canyon, which he sold for \$500, has since made five million dollars.

**Scrap Piles Pay Off**  
He was working at a \$4,000-a-year job in California when, in 1948, he read that big money was beginning to be paid for the uranium-laden ore that he used to throw away in big scrap piles. He hurried back to Moab, traded his antiquated Chevy for

a truck, and began hauling ore from dumps that he knew about.

Turner, at 37, is a wiry sort with blue eyes, hornrim glasses, a receding hairline, and the slightly lined face of an outdoor man. He has a tendency to talk like Herb Shriner, the Hoosier entertainer.

"I went out as soon as I got back," he said, "to one mine I'd had—well, it was right outside town, was there where it was—and shoveled up dirt I had thrown away before, and I got paid for it. That was the initial start.

**Twisted Knobs on Oil Job**  
"In California, working for an oil company, I set on my hind end and twisted knobs. It was a dewaxing plant, was what it was. My first year in the uranium business, 1948, I doubled the \$4,000 I'd made the year before. In 1949, I doubled my intake of 1948—and I just kept on doubling. My wife, Aggie, used to drive a truck and come out and do the cooking for us when I was getting started."

In 1952, Turner discovered one of the most valuable ore bodies in the whole uranium-rich region. Now he owns some

1,000 claims, 15 to 20 operating mines, and as many more non-operating mines.

How does it feel to make a quick switch from low income to millions?

"The only difference it's made for me is work harder, that's all. It's a terrible lot different from working with a pick in a mine. It just seems to keep a guy busy every minute, that's all—conferences, mergers, lawyers, paperwork. I'd like to be able to spend some time with my family.

**Fun Must Wait**  
"I want to do things I'd expected to do if I'd had that much money. Make a few trips. Why, I been planning a fishing trip to Vancouver for 18 months now. Aggie is waiting for me right now, to come get her and make that trip. And she's running out of patience."

Didn't he turn his millions into some luxury living for himself?

"We're simple people," Turner said. "We have two cars in all. We remodeled our house some. It's a three-bedroom place. I think we have the nicest kitchen in Moab. Aggie built that

### SWELL STORY

Des Moines — (U.P.) — Two brothers got mumps the same week although they were many miles apart. Roger Caliger contracted the disease the first week in March. The family learned later that his older brother, Wesley, with the Army in Korea, came down with mumps the same week.

kitchen just the way she wanted it. She's a wonderful cook, can cook better'n my mother, even, and that's going some.

"My boy Kent, he's 10, and my girl, Kathy, 7, go to school in Moab. Aggie was a classmate of mine in the same school."

Moab has jumped from 1,200 population to 6,000 in the last year and a half. But the Turners are thinking of moving to Salt Lake City, and getting a new house. Aggie wants a five-bedroom place.



**'THIS IS HEAVEN'**—First of the released U. S. fliers to be reunited with families in Honolulu, Lt. Col. Edwin L. Heller of Wynnewood, Pa., embraces his wife Judith on their reunion.

## George Margreiter Dies in Washington

Jacksonville — News of the death of George Margreiter on May 14 at Snoqualmie, Wash., has been received by relatives in this area. He was working in the Weyerhaeuser Timber company woods when he collapsed and died before aid could reach him.

Mr. Margreiter was born in Jacksonville in 1893, one of nine children, and lived here during his early life. During World War I he served in the Army. He was a logger all his life and ran his own gypo camps and at one time a sawmill.

In 1926 Mr. Margreiter was married at Yreka, Calif., to Lillian Lott, who survives. They lived in Snoqualmie since 1944.

Other survivors include a son, John Margreiter, Snoqualmie, two stepsons and two stepdaughters, six grandchildren, and three sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Van Galder, 836 North Central ave., Medford; Mrs. Leslie Rogers, Klamath Falls, and Mrs. E. Hopkins, Portland.

Fitchburg, Mass. — (U.P.) — Fireman Edmond Mayo heard someone cry "fire," so he grabbed an extinguisher and ran outside to the street. An automobile was blazing merrily. Yep, it was his.

Funeral services were held at Meadowbrook and interment was at North Bend cemetery.

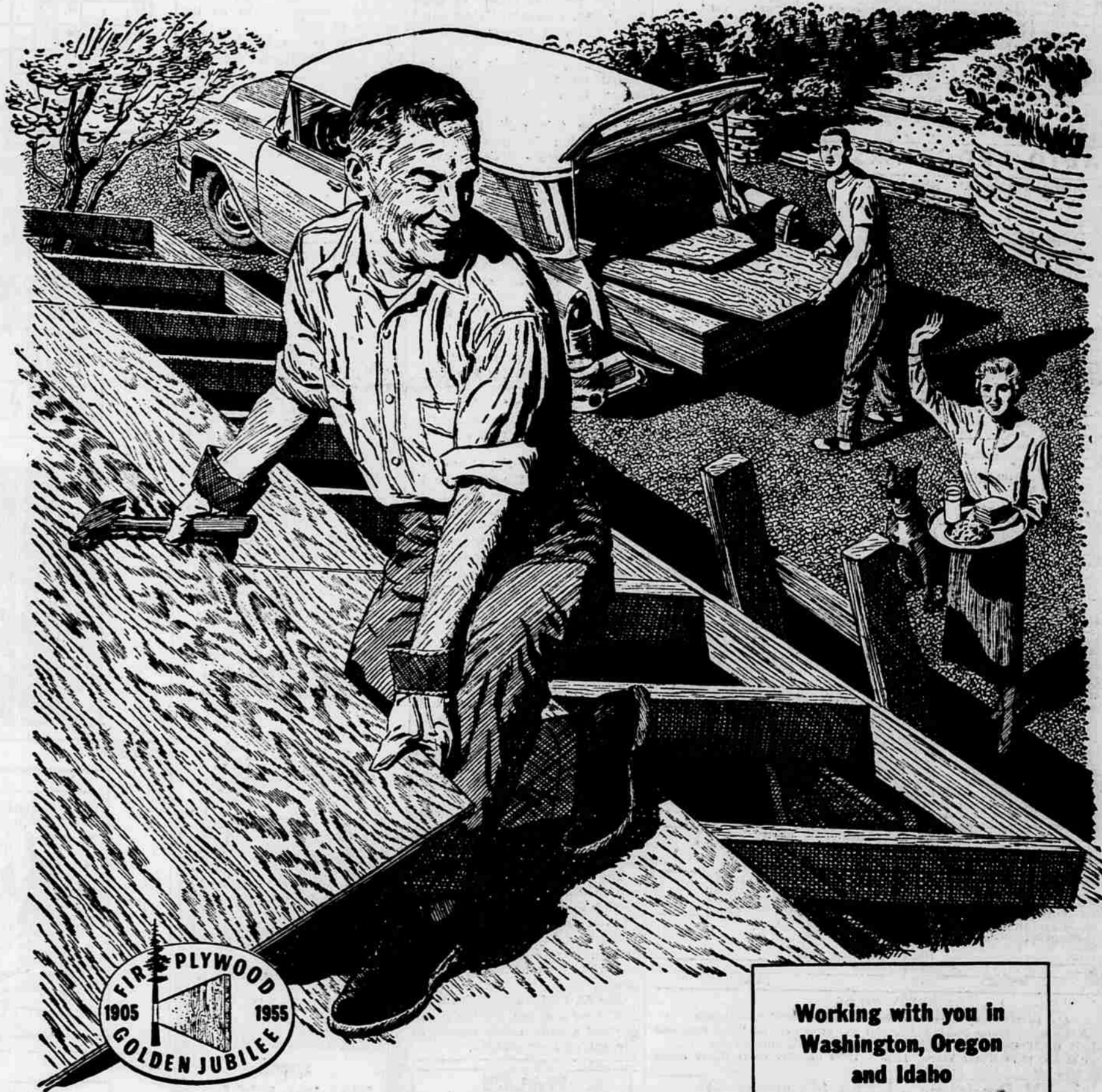
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