

Volunteer Fire Companies Still Stand Guard Over Many American Communities

By UNITED PRESS
If you think the volunteer fireman went out with the bucket brigade you're wrong. There are more volunteer fire companies standing guard over our life and property than at any time in history.

For instance the Anthracite mining center of Reading, Pa., with 110,000 persons — big enough years ago to have a paid fire department — is one city that still clings enthusiastically to the volunteer tradition. Allentown, Pa., with a population of 106,000, is another.

750,000 Volunteers
Robert Schuette of the National Fire Protective Association at Boston estimates there are 750,000 volunteer firemen in the United States, making up 30,000 companies. Their numbers are rising, not declining.

A New York state official said

the Empire State has 1,589 volunteer fire companies and the figure goes up about four per cent a year.

The companies range from one-truck outfits with 20 or 25 volunteers to companies that boast 20 pieces of equipment and 600 men.

There are both practical and sentimental reasons for keeping up the cooperative firefighting tradition, which goes back to Colonial days in America.

"There's a certain amount of 'Little Boy in All of Us' said B. Richter Townsend, general manager of the International Association of Fire Chiefs. "Most men don't mind having to serve in a fire department—they like it."

But many volunteer engine companies are matters of necessity. The population is moving to the suburbs around most big

U.S. cities. With booming residential development many "country" towns need more fire protection or local insurance rates go sky high. Volunteers are the best answer.

Nowhere as in Reading do so many little boys grow up to be firemen. The city has 8,000 volunteers, or about one for every 13 citizens.

The City pays salaries to the fire chief, two deputies and 76 drivers for the 30 pieces of equipment. The rest of the firemen work for nothing.

The fire companies verge on being social clubs. Some have clubrooms, and maintain relief associations which pay benefits to survivors if a member is killed or dies.

There is talk from time to time of setting up a paid fire department. The closest this ever came to happening was in 1914, when the city council passed an ordinance creating a paid fire department.

But the people of Reading didn't like the idea even if the city council did. They defeated the ordinance overwhelmingly in a referendum.

Salem —(U.P.)— Gov. Paul L. Patterson has appointed Eliot H. Jenkins of Springfield to the State Board of Forestry, representing West Coast Lumbermen's association. Jenkins succeeds the late Floyd Hart of Medford.

Portland —(U.P.)— The body of a boy was found in the Willamette river near the west end of the Sellwood bridge yesterday. Police said the youth was tentatively identified as 13-year-old Robert Popiel.

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



French Farm Girl, Stranger in Paradise, Learning About Hamburgers and Steaks

By TOM MILLER
United Press Correspondent

Topeka, Kan. —(U.P.)— A pretty French girl named Monique is learning a lot as a stranger in Paradise, Paradise, Kan., that is. She's learning about charcoal broiled steaks, and hamburgers in buns . . . about food mixers, rubber dish scrapers, and supermarkets.

Monique is Monique Demyt-

tenaere, 21, brown-eyed and comely, and the daughter of a well-to-do French farming family of north central France. She is in the United States for six months as part of the international farm youth exchange program.

To Visit Several Sections
Monique is scheduled to visit with farm families in several sections of the United States . . . and right now she's staying with the A. E. Rodgers family of Paradise . . . a little wheat country village, population 144.

Monique has found life in a country village in America is quite different from life at home in a French farming community. Take shorts for example. Monique never wore a pair before she got to Paradise. She says in France city girls sometimes wear shorts when they visit the country, but farm girls consider them immodest.

Then there's the chrome food mixer in the Rodgers kitchen. Monique's parents are prosperous—they have large land holdings in three farms—but there's nothing to equal that gleaming mixer in Monique's mother's kitchen. Monique plans to send one home soon.

Outdoor Meals New
Sandwiches and outdoor meals

also are new to the French girl. She ate her first hamburger in Washington . . . and she never had a barbecued steak until she visited the Rodgers.

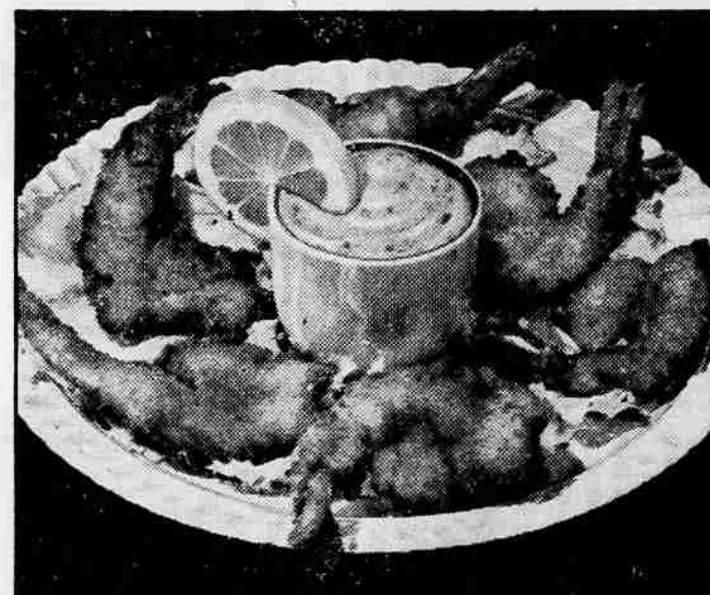
Shopping, too has been a treat and a puzzle for the easy-smiling French girl. The rubber dish-scraper she saw for the first time at a hardware store intrigued her so she bought a handful of them to take back to France. Grocery stores still amaze her, too. She says in her home territory everyone raises his own produce, so there are no grocery stores in most French villages.

The French girl will go to Dodge City in southwest Kansas after her visit in Paradise, then to the state of Washington to live with other farm families before returning home for Christmas.

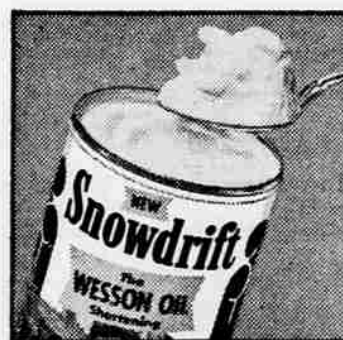
Touring Her Homeland
Meantime John Rogers, the son of Monique's present hosts, is in France. He is touring Monique's homeland, also as part of the international farm youth exchange program.

The two met in Washington, where John was interpreter for the contingent of French delegates before he took off for Europe. They hope to meet again.

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Salem —(U.P.)— A formal order removing all standards for containers used for apples and pears was signed this week by J. F. Short, State Director of Agriculture. The action follows a hearing held last month. The order now is in effect.

and exchange notes on their experiences, during an American Thanksgiving dinner at the Rodgers home, just before Monique returns to France.

Meantime, Monique hopes John is having as good a time in France as she is in America.

As she put it in her last letter home to her mother, father and two smaller sisters, "I'm having a wonderful time in paradise."

TANK KILLS SOLDIERS

Tilshead, England —(U.P.)— A runaway tank rumbled through a row of tents filled with sleeping British soldiers today and killed four men and injured four others.

Dr. Robert E. Lee
Optometrist

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3 lbs. for \$1.00

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39c lb.

Steaks
Top Round & T-Bones
79c lb.

Rib Steaks
59c lb.

Bacon
Swift's
Sliced
49c lb.

Distilled Cider
Vinegar gal. jug 69c

HUNT'S
Tomato Sauce 6/49c

HUNT'S—46-Oz. Tin
Tomato Juice . . . 4/\$1.00

HUNT'S—2 1/2 Tin
Pork & Beans . . . 5/\$1.00

HUNT'S—New Pack—300 Size
Peas 6/\$1.00
(24 Can Case \$3.95)

HUNT'S—300 Size
New Potatoes . . . 10/\$1.00

HUNT'S—2 1/2 Jar—Sliced
Dill Pickles 29c

HUNT'S—No. 2 Cans
Stewed Tomatoes . . 5/\$1.00

HUNT'S—300 Size
Spinach 8/\$1.00

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