

Tenth Anniversary of Hiroshima Spurs Motorlog Trip to Richland

Air of Stability Impresses Visitor To Atomic City

The following is a condensation of a motorlog appearing July 31 in Northwest magazine of The Sunday Oregonian. It is one of an annual series sponsored jointly by the Oregon State Motor association and The Oregonian.

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Ten years ago this week—August 6, 1945—the first air-dropped atomic bomb seared the Japanese city of Hiroshima. It was the signal for stripping of the veil from the biggest and best-kept secret of World War II. The Northwest particularly felt the impact of the revelation.

For something like a year and a half, it was disclosed, the atomic fires had been burning in the mysterious installation at Hanford, Wash., producing what was then the most frightening substance in the experience of man—plutonium.

After that fateful August day the press was invited to see what was going on. The Oregonian sent three reporters, including the writer, and a photographer. Last month—nearly ten years later—this reporter went back for another look on an Oregonian-Oregon State Motor association motorlog.

It was worth the trip. We made it in the white motorlog car as part of a four-day trip up the Oregon side of the Columbia to McNary dam, then to Pasco and Richland, northwest to Yakima and Fort Simcoe, and back via Satus pass to the Columbia and home. If you drive directly to Richland, you can make the motorlog on a two-day week end.

Interest Points Varied

There are two particular points of interest in a visit—particularly a second visit—to the nuclear fission country in south central Washington.

One is the widely separated buildings in which plutonium is manufactured by transmutation of uranium metal in the Hanford atomic works reactors. The other is the town of Richland, 25 miles south of Hanford, once a modest village of 250 population, where most of the plant workers now live.

Richland became a government-owned town in the early 1940s when the 600-square-mile reservation was established, and



Richland's uptown business district is flourishing. Although firms cannot own land, they are required to erect their own buildings, and private construction exceeds \$3,500,000.

had grown to 15,000 population by the time the product of its industrial workers was first put to use. Today Richland has a population of 27,500.

Richland might be disappointing in appearance to those expecting the bizarre in one of the nation's principal atomic establishments. There is nothing to distinguish it as the home of almost a unique group of workers—except its newness. It looks like the mammoth new housing development in the desert—which it is.

There are virtually no old buildings in Richland, no slums, no blighted areas, no wrong side of the tracks. Only a scattered few "tract" dwellings and some of the structures of the old business district still stand.

Nearly 3000 new housing units have been added to residential sections in the last ten years. There is a high degree of standardization in Richland houses, but in most cases the houses are so distributed—and the premises so landscaped—as to avoid monotonous uniformity.



Map locates Richland and Hanford atomic reservation in Washington on the Columbia.

The federal government owns most Richland dwellings, and collects rent from the occupants. A thousand privately financed rental dwellings and apartments were built several years ago.

Company Runs Town

Richland does not have municipal government. General Electric company operates Hanford Works, and the company selects the "community manager." A community council, elected by Richlanders, advises him in matters affecting the residents.

There is a new business district growing in the north part of the city, and several neighborhood shopping centers. While there is considerable standardization of dwellings, business individuality is the same as anywhere else. A restaurant, for example, has a neon sign: "Fission Chips."

Columbia senior high school has been enlarged, two new junior high schools built, along with three new grade schools in Richland and North Richland, and three of the four existing grade schools have been enlarged.

The city also boasts a new municipal swimming pool.

The security program at Hanford has been not a whit relaxed in ten years. Your pass—and you—get the same hard look from the guard at the same entry gate that was there ten years ago. And from that point on you have the feeling that security provisions have been tightened, if there has been any change.

Six Week-end Accidents Injure Three In Area

Three persons were injured and two others were lodged in Jackson county jail for being drunk on public highways in connection with six accidents in this area over the week end.

In a one-car accident about 10:05 p.m. Saturday, a car driven by Freeman N. Scott of Kerby, crashed into a state light pole at a traffic divider on Highway 99 just south of Phoenix. Scott's wife, Elinore Janet Scott, 23, suffered cuts and possible pelvic injuries, according to state police. She was taken to Community hospital by Medford ambulance. Her condition was reported as fair today.

State police said witnesses indicated the Freeman vehicle was traveling at a high rate of speed when it hit the northbound traffic divider. Police said the vehicle traveled along the divider before hitting the light pole. The car was extensively damaged.

Struck From Behind

Cars operated by Ira Haskell Ponder, 29, of 2903 College Way, Medford, and Grady William Tillman, 35, of 2802 Springbrook rd., Medford, collided on McAndrews rd. at Biddle rd. about 1:55 a.m. Sunday. State police said the Ponder vehicle was stopped at a stop sign when Tillman's vehicle struck it from the rear.

Ponder's wife, Mrs. Faye Mabel Ponder, was taken to Community hospital by Medford ambulance with possible back injuries. Tillman was lodged in the county jail for being drunk on a public highway, according to police. Mrs. Ponder was in good condition today, according

to hospital attendants.

State police said the impact knocked the Ponder vehicle about 150 feet. Damage was heavy to Tillman's vehicle, but not extensive to Ponder's, police said.

Arnfin Conrad Rasmussen, 14, of 1918 Stewart ave., Medford, suffered slight hand injuries when the bicycle on which he was riding collided with a pickup truck driven by Basil Frances Zimmerlee, 32, of Central Point. State police said the bicycle, operated by Gene K. Reeves, 15, of 2852 Joe Jack rd., was traveling on the shoulder along Table Rock rd. near the Big Y. Zimmerlee's pickup turned onto Table Rock rd. from Crater Lake highway, colliding with the bicycle, police said. The accident happened about 8 p.m. Sunday.

Hits Stopped Train

Winston Russel Tipton, 33, who listed his address as in care of Crystal Orchards, Phoenix, was lodged in the county jail for being drunk on a public highway after the car he was operating crashed into a stopped freight train at the Main st. crossing in Talent about 1:40 a.m. Sunday.

State police said Tipton received minor cuts and chest bruises, but refused hospitalization. They said the Tipton vehicle skidded eight feet prior to hitting the railway express car of the train.

A car operated by Richard Kimbrough, 17, of Day's Creek, swerved off the highway to avoid hitting a parked car operated by E. R. Baker, 32, of 1033 Court st., Medford, about 9:35 p.m. Saturday. State police

Monday, September 12, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—SEVEN

Red Cross Training Program To Start Soon

The Jackson County Red Cross chapter will hold its annual training session at the courthouse office from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 27. Anyone interested in working in any of the 15 categories of services should call the county office for an interview before the training meeting.

Red Cross officials said they are interested in obtaining women to work in the blind people's program. More than 100 blind persons live in this area, they reported, and many come to the chapter for assistance.

The recent forest fire situation, officials said, revealed a need for women who have canned duty experience to register at the office. When an emergency arises, experienced personnel could then be called immediately.

said Baker stopped his car on Table Rock rd. near Bear Creek bridge when the vehicle's lights went out and he couldn't see to get off the road. There were no injuries, police said.

A pickup operated by Clinton Dean Vorman, 63, of route 1, box 438, Medford, and a car operated by Vernon Richard Wynkoop, 41, of 617 1/4 Pine st., Medford, collided on Camp Baker rd. about 6 p.m. Sunday. State police said the Wynkoop vehicle turned to avoid hitting a parked vehicle, and struck the fender of the Vorman pickup which was traveling east. Damage was not extensive.

Portlander Rescued From Nehalem Bar

Nehalem, Ore.—(U.P.)—Stewart de Brissay, 50, of Portland, was rescued by fishermen yesterday when his 13-foot boat was overturned by huge breakers on the Nehalem bar.

The capsizing was seen by Robert Herrington, a state police officer. Herrington spread the alarm, and Mossis Reaves, Nehalem, went to De Brissay's aid in his 18-foot outboard.

De Brissay was found hanging to his overturned craft.

North and South Carolina were separated in 1729.

Russia Begins To Offer Wheat for Sale Abroad

London—(U.P.)—The Soviet Union, until recently in the throes of a severe agricultural crisis, has begun to offer wheat for sale abroad.

Soviet agents have hinted they will have a "lot" of wheat to offer this coming season, according to British trade reports.

Official Moscow statements announced a bumper harvest in the Soviet Union this year. But some experts believe there may also be other motives behind the Russian activity.

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Democratic Women's Conference Scheduled

Washington—(U.P.)—The Democratic National committee will hold the second in a series of Democratic women's regional conferences in Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 27 and 28.

Mrs. Katie Loucheim, director of women's activities for the committee, said Sunday that the two day conference will be based on the theme that "politics is every woman's business."

Sprig Takes Open Retriever Stake

Klamath Falls—(U.P.)—Sprig of Swinomish, owned by C. R. Tobin of San Francisco, won the open all-age main competition yesterday in the Shasta-Cascade annual fall licensed retriever trials.

The amateur all-age stakes were won by Oakcreek's Sir Dorchester, owned and handled by Jim Stilwell of Klamath Falls.

SPORTS

Sapulpa Cops World Toga

Tulsa, Okla.—(U.P.)—Sapulpa, Okla., Brick and Tile defeated San Pedro, Calif. 6 to 4 before 2,500 fans at Newblock park here Sunday night to win the National Softball Congress World championship.

The victory ended a three year reign by the defending champion San Pedro team.

Home runs by Dutch Ausmus and Clyde Woods accounted for five of the Sapulpa runs off loser George Pearson.

Washington Studs Lick Portland

Watertown, S. C.—(U.P.)—Cheney Studs of Seattle defeated Portland's Archer Blower and Pipe 5-0 last night in the Northwest American Baseball congress double elimination tournament.

George Kritsonis held Archer to five hits as he notched the third consecutive tournament shutout for the defending champion Studs.

The loss was the first for the Portland team.

DeVoe, Kabler Team Triumphs

Portland—Sue DeVoe, Medford, and Carole Jo Kabler, Sutherlin, won the Rose City women's best ball tourney last week end with a two-day score of 143. Tied for second with 150s were Mrs. Dale Hiltz and Mrs. Ralph Walters, Rose City, and Mrs. Richard Grubbs and Mrs. Harold Weiss, Rose City.

FORTY-NINER HURT

San Francisco—(U.P.)—The San Francisco Forty-Niners have lost promising rookie Clarence Norris, a defensive halfback, for the remainder of this season from a knee injury. Norris, a former UCLA griddler, aggravated an old injury in an exhibition game in Seattle and was operated on yesterday.

Doctors said he will be ready to play next year, but ruled out any participation in the present season.

CHINESE CHAMP

San Francisco—(U.P.)—Sgt. Allen H. Tong, U.S. Marine Corps champion, has stroked his way to the national Chinese tennis crown. Tong, after a shaky start, defeated Walt Chinn, San Francisco, 13-11, 6-0, 6-2, yesterday to take the crown.

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