

Most 'Playhouse 90' Shows Not Always Worth Effort

By WILLIAM EWALD
United Press Correspondent
New York.—On Thursday night's "Playhouse 90," James Mason, playing a Broadway director, says to his playwright: "When it's all over, has it been worth it?" To which the playwright, Jack Klugman replies: "That's a very good question. Let me answer it

this way—yes and no." Well, yes and no. That's the way I've felt about most "Playhouse 90" productions this season. None of them is ever really bad—although "The Death of Manolete" came perilously close. On the other hand, none has really set TV on fire either. Thursday night Robert Alan Arthur, a writer who was wean-

ed on the old "Philco Playhouse," turned out a 90-minute (minus umpteenth commercial breaks) called "The Thundering Wave." It was a play about a play and the efforts of a director, a playwright and some actors to spank it alive before it opens in Manhattan. But it was also a play about

counter-pulls—about the personal problems that each of the participants brings to his work, problems that threaten to stifle the life of the play. The cast, besides Mason and Klugman, included Joan Bennett and Franchot Tone. The performances were good as they are in most "Playhouse 90" offerings, with James Mason turning in an exceptionally polished performance. It's a pleasure to watch the man work.

Good Smell About Show
And there was a good smell about the show, too—an authentic aroma of backstage talk, of steam-pipe rehearsals complete with coffee containers, good costumes and some excellent camera groupings.

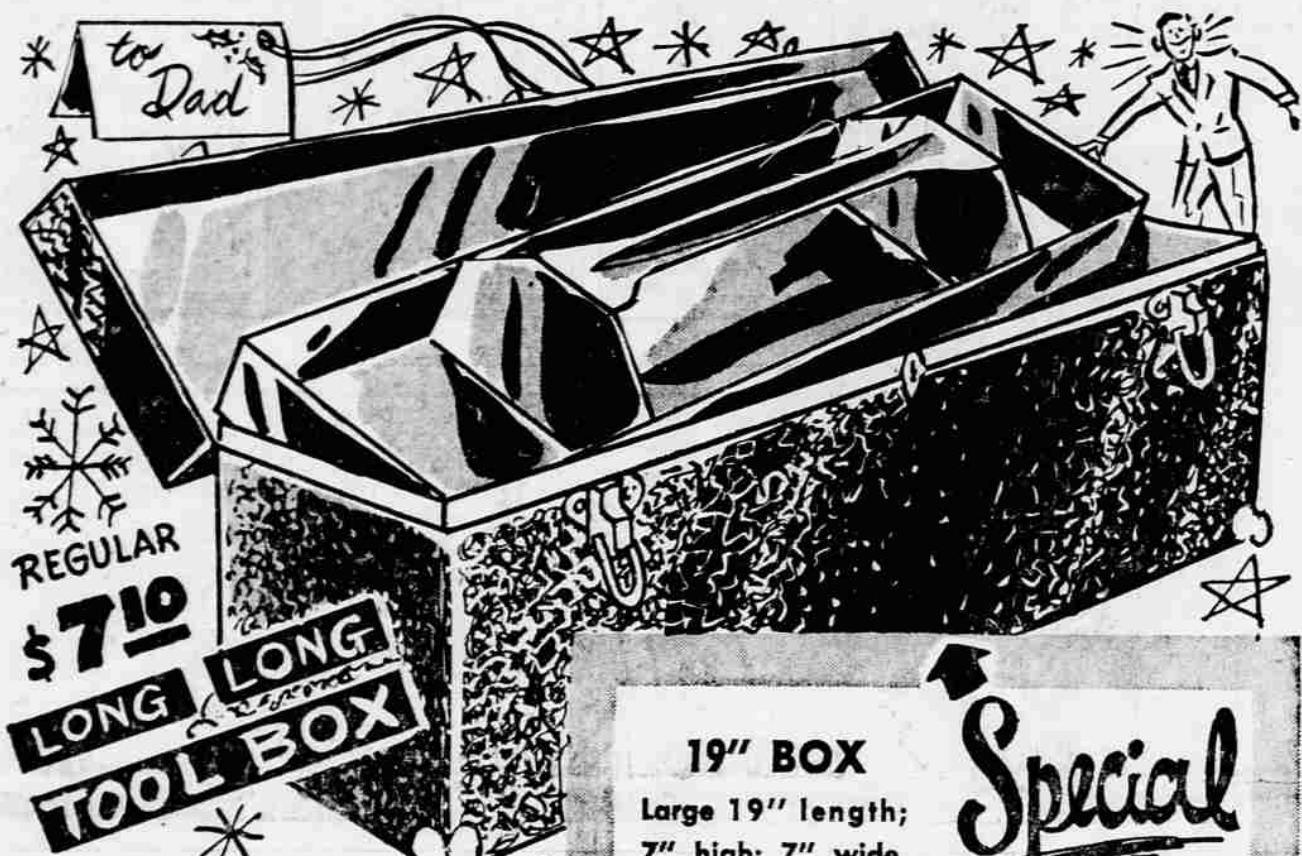
The channel swim: Thursday night's "Climax" mellerdramer on CBS-TV threw a group of hurricane-buffed strangers together in a creaky hotel. It threw them together in a creaky plot, too.

When CBS-TV's "Harbormaster" moves to ABC-TV on Jan. 5, it'll be retitled "Adventure of Scott Island" . . . "Lamp Unto My Feet" and "Look Up and Live."

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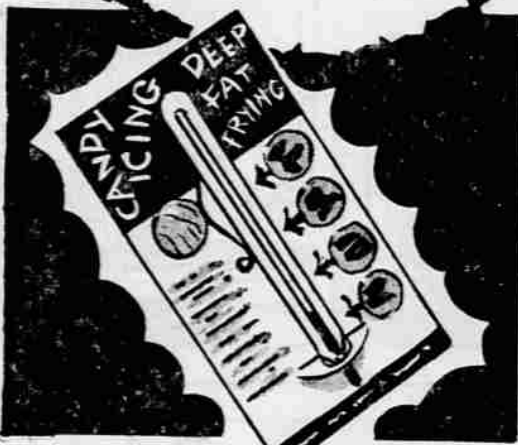
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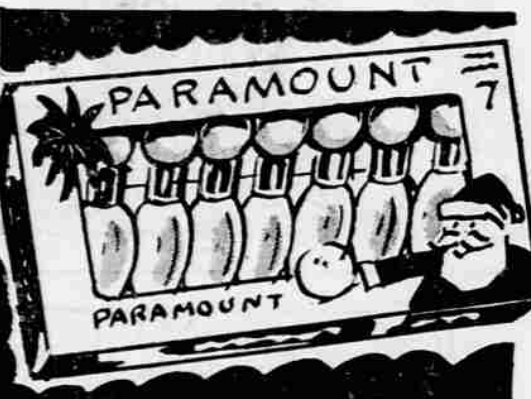
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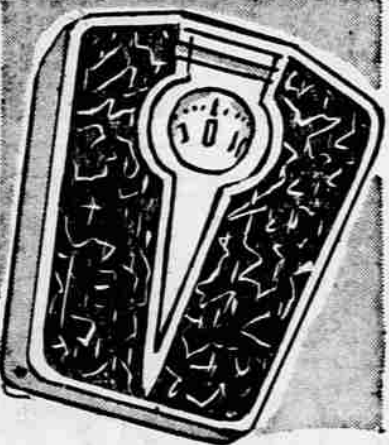


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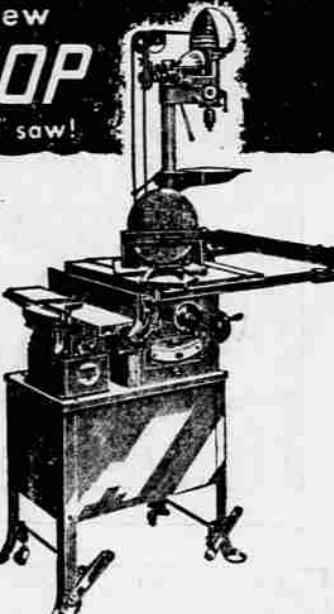
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National Guard News

By MARGARET BEHNKE

Company A reports the assignment of Specialist Third Class Melvin Saltmarsh as mess steward. He replaces Sgt. William A. Parish, who has transferred to the Air Force reserve.

Tuesday, Dec. 10, the company drilled with 66 enlisted men and three officers attending. Among the enlisted men were five men recently returned from six months active duty training at Ft. Ord, Calif. These men, who enlisted under the new six months active duty program are Pvt. Ted Yarnell, Phoenix; Pvt. Roy R. Brown, 927 West 13th st., Medford; Pvt. Richard A. Foran, Eagle Point; Pvt. Jerry D. Lindsey, route 2, Medford; and Pvt. Billy Weddle, 110 Williamette ave., Medford. Effective Dec. 11, all five have been promoted to private first class.

The men attended classes on "Technique of Fire and Combat Fire," instructed by Sgt. Van Horn and Cpl. Paul Juveland; "Drills and Ceremonies" under M/Sgt. Matejka and SFC Herb Vessey; "Sinperscope Familiarization," instructed by Lt. Harding, assisted by Sgt. D. Burns; and "Grenades," under Sgt. Nolan, Sgt. Holberton, and Pvt. Yarnell. Pvt. Yarnell assisted by demonstrating techniques learned while at Ft. Ord.

Company Commander First Lt. Ivie announces that Company A will not drill on Dec. 24 or Dec. 31, so that the men may be home with their families. Instead a regular drill will be held on Dec. 27.

After playing four games in the Medford basketball league Company A has won two and lost two.

James Taylor, a former member of Company A, wishes to thank his friends in the company who donated blood to the Red Cross Blood Bank to replace that given him during recent surgery at Sacred Heart hospital.

Maj. George Bennett, Headquarters First Battalion 186th Infantry staff assistant, stationed in Grants Pass, paid an administrative visit to both local units on Wednesday, Dec. 11.

Recent developments in Headquarters Company include the reenlistment of two men, Sp3 William J. Wayman and Pfc. Frank Artmire. Each completed one three-year enlistment and reenlisted for another three-year term.

Classes at the last Monday drill included "Grenades," instructed by Sgt. Westensee; "Military Vehicle," under Sgt. Heberling and Sp3 Fred Straube; and "Assault River Crossing" instructed by Sp3 Joseph Lucas, Sp3 Richard Walls and Sp3 Robert J. Lyons instructed the "Wire Section on T-Splices," and first and second hour classes on "Combat Intelligence" were given by Captain Fagone and PFC Derwin Large. Sgt. Darwin D. Durr, a recent transfer from Bismark, N.D., gave a class on the use of short wave radio.

PFC Jack H. McCandless has returned from Portland, where he attended a civilian school on heavy equipment.

Captain Fagone received a letter from PFC Daniel F. Kellington, who is authorized to drill in Eugene while attending University of Oregon. PFC Kellington said "as a result of my guard training in switchboard operation I have a part time job at the Register Guard in Eugene. My job on the switchboard at Camp gave me valuable experience which will help pay my way to school."

Sp3 Arlen Hukill of Headquarters Company became the father of a baby girl Saturday, Dec. 7.

Headquarters Company will not drill Dec. 16. The last drill of the year will be Dec. 23, which will be a Christmas party and filling of Christmas baskets for needy families, an annual project of the Company.

INDIAN PORTRAITIST DIES
New London, Conn.—W. Langdon Kihn, 59, portraitist of the American Indian, died at Memorial hospital Thursday after a short illness. He lived at East Haddam, Conn. Kihn made his first trip West in 1921 with Winold Reiss, famed painter of Indian life. He lived with the Laguna and Acoma Indians for some time and was adopted by the Blackfield Tribe.

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County Residents Give \$794 to Heart Group

Jackson county residents have contributed a total of \$794.75 to the heart association during the last five months, according to a report by Mrs. Murray S. Gardiner Jr., local chairman.

Jackson county placed second in the state in size of contributions. Multnomah county led the counties with a \$6,096.36 total. Money collected in Oregon will be used for research by medical schools and laboratories in the state, she said.

Salem.—Tax Commission Chairman S. W. Horn said Oregonians would get their state income tax returns about Jan. 1.

BAD TIMING

New Castle, Ind.—A forgery suspect with bad timing store employee, put down a notice about stolen postal orders tried to pass a forged postal

order. He made the attempt just as Mrs. Wilma Massengals, a store employee, put down a notice about stolen postal orders she had been reading.

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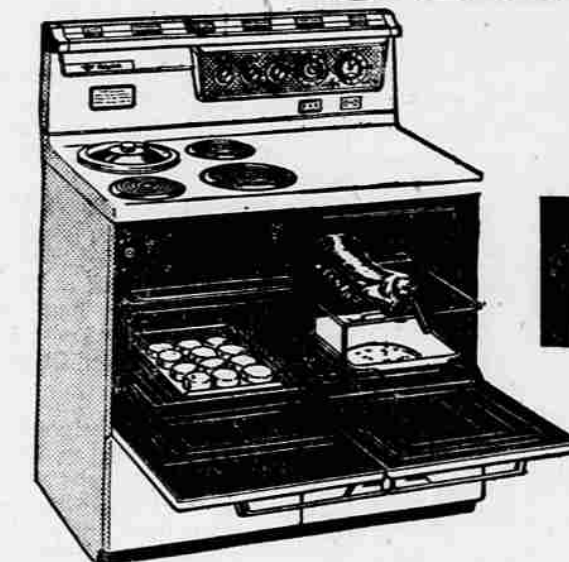


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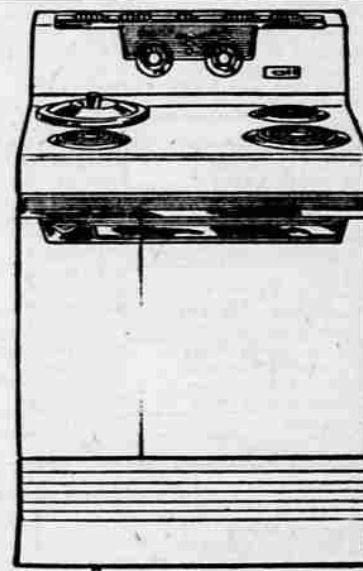


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