

### Meeting Set by Health Group

The second meeting of the recently organized Jackson County Mental Health Association has been set for 7:30 p.m. June 14 in the county welfare building.

The group, an outgrowth of the former Jackson County Mental Health committee, held its first meeting May 17. "Ring out hope" to conquer mental illness is its aim.

Lindsay Vinsel is the president; the Rev. Escil Hiser, vice president; Mrs. Gretchen Wade, secretary; and Richard Kuhn, treasurer.

The board of the association voted to apply for membership in the United Medford Crusade and submitted a budget for UMC consideration.

Activities of the new group will be aimed at providing information and education for the community regarding

mental health facilities. Literature will be made available and informative programs are planned "to give greater understanding of mental illness and its related problems," officers stated.

The public is invited to attend the meetings.

### Jacksonville Youth Named OSC Adviser

Corvallis - Dennis Caird of Jacksonville has been selected to serve as an adviser in the men's dormitories next year at Oregon State college.

Caird will be a junior in forestry in 1960-61.

He was one of 25 outstanding graduate students and upper classmen picked for the adviser posts. The advisers help with the new student orientation program, assist students with study problems, and help direct the dormitory activity programs.

In return for their services, advisers receive free room rent for the year, plus \$75 per term.

### EARLY VISITOR

Fairbanks-The coast guard's cutter Lincoln was the first U.S. ship to enter Alaskan waters after the territory was purchased from the Russians.



**PAPA GRADUATES** - The six sons of Thomas M. Bone, Beaverton, pose in a family portrait marking their father's graduation from the University of Oregon Dental School in Portland. Pat, mother of the brood, holds Mark 3 months; others, from left, are Scott, 6; Steve, 9; Matt 1 1/2, center rear; Tracey, 4, center front, and Mike 8. (UPI Telephoto)

## Boy, 8, Survives for 14 Days After Plane Crash By Eating Bark From Forest Trees

Flin Flon, Man. - (UPI) - An eight year old boy who was the sole survivor of a plane crash survived for 14 days in the wilderness by eating the bark from trees and sleeping in the branches to escape marauding black bears.

One of the bears got so close it bit his hand.

The story of small Walter Sedor's successful battle against nature began to be pieced together today at the hospital where he is recovering.

He recalled to his mother how he was frightened by the bears that prowled around the scene of the plane crash that killed his father and a companion while the three were on a fishing trip.

Walter was picked up Thursday by a helicopter beside the wreckage. The charred bodies of his father, miner, and Kenneth Harrison, 32, the pilot and a mining executive, were found nearby.

### Experience Recounted

Doctors refused to let authorities question the boy for fear that reliving the experience would cause a relapse in his condition, but at times the boy recounted parts of his experience to his mother.

Mrs. Sedor said her son told her how he slept in a tree one night to escape two black bears. The mother was spending most of her time at the boy's bedside.

"Walter told me every time he saw a bear he would sneak away and hide," she said. "One bit his hand and he was so scared he couldn't move and it just went away."

Searchers at the scene of the crash said the bears were attracted to the wreckage while prowling for food.

Sedor's body was found about 100 feet from the plane where it had been dragged by the bears. The animals are short of food at this time of the year.

Walter, who escaped the crash with a cut nose, told his mother he was thrown out of the plane.

**Daddy Beside Tree**  
"I fell through the plane, Mummy, and when I got up I saw it was on fire and Daddy was lying beside the tree," she quoted him as saying.

For the next two weeks Walter lived by the side of the wreckage waiting for planes.

"His father had drummed into him before not to wander away if ever they were forced down," said Walter's uncle Harry Cross.

Walter told his mother how he tried to attract attention of search planes.

"I dried my clothes on a tree and put my sweater (black with red and white patterns) on the rocks for the planes to see. But the planes didn't stop," he told her.

The wreckage was all but hidden by the trees.

Besides thirst and hunger, Walter's next big worry was mosquitos.

"There were lots of them," he told his mother, "but I put my sweater over my head at times to sleep."

Walter ate bark and leaves from the surrounding popular trees. Rescue parties at the scene said they found branches which had shown teeth marks.

Other bits of information he told his mother in snatches of conversation: "I fell on the rock once and hurt my knee . . . I drank water from holes in the rocks. I found a rock to sleep on . . . I first put a whole bunch of leaves on the ground. . . ."

### Got Knees Wet

"There wasn't much water to drink. . . I got my knees wet and needed to dry them. I lay down in the sun but there wasn't much sun (because of the foliage). . . It warmed me . . . were you worried about me when I was lost in the bush? . . . the planes didn't see me although I waved by sweater lots of times."

The youngster was often drenched by rains and was subjected to near-freezing temperatures. He was barefooted. His new boots, which he took off while in the plane, were lost in the crash.

Walter lost a lot of weight. His first words to his mother were "Gee, I thought you'd never come to get me" and then he asked her for an apple pie. He is still weak and sleeps most of the time. On one occasion he awoke in the

### Dived Into Bush

The crash occurred when the plane took off from Tarton lake on its return journey to Flin Flon after the trio fished for an hour. The plane had just taken off when it dived into the bush. It hit a rocky hill half a mile from the lake, nine miles northeast of Flin Flon.

The youngster was spotted by chance by Harvey Evans, the pilot of a Transair plane,

### on a routine flight when he

noticed an object glinting below. It turned out to be one of the metal pontoons of the plane. He circled the area and spotted Walter jumping and waving. An Air Force helicopter airlifted the boy and then the bodies.

Later searchers found a 24-day survival food kit, unopened, near the wreckage. The boy did not know what it was.

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