The Evening Herald

HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY, Publishers

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Published every afternoon except Sunday by The Herald Publishing Company at Esplanade and Pine Streets, Klamath Falls, Oregon

Entered as second class matter at the postoffice of Klamath Falls, Ore., on August 20, 1906 under act of congress, March 3, 1879

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A Match Money Opportunity

A SOLUTION to the tough Sprague River road problem is offered through the action of the senate appropriations committee in providing $150,000 match money for reconstruction of that important secondary thoroughfare.

This money is available, according to word from Senator Holman, if the state will provide the same amount for the reconstruction program. Final congressional action, presumably, is yet to be taken, but the word from Washington makes that seem very likely after the action by the committee.

This development re-opens the question of state action on the Chiloquin-Sprague River road. First step would of necessity be the inclusion of this road in the state secondary system, in order to make it eligible for the expenditure of state funds in accordance with the federal proposition.

The road is a logical secondary highway. It connects the Klamath Falls-Lakeview and The Dalles-California primary highways, it serves the important industrial communities of Bly, Sprague River and Chiloquin, and it is a feeder of business traffic into Klamath Falls. It even has certain defense possibilities.

The state road policy in the past seems always to have been to take advantage of federal match money whenever possible. Here is match money for a road which, if not reconstructed now, will be bobbing up repeatedly in the future as a problem for state, federal and county authorities.

This newspaper is well aware of the problems before the state highway commission, but it believes the opportunities are such in the present situation as regards the Sprague River road that they should not be permitted to pass. It earnestly urges the commission's consideration of this chance to do something on this deserving highway.

We're in the Festival Parade

KLAMATH County Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Sheriff's Posse are doing this community a distinct service in their sponsorship of entries in the Portland Rose Festival parade on June 13.

The posse, in full trappings, will ride in the parade with the flower and girl-bedecked float to be entered by the junior chamber. Both should make a most creditable showing for Klamath Falls in a procession that is viewed by thousands.

It has been 14 years since Klamath Falls had an entry in the Rose Festival parade. In 1928 Oscar Moeller took a float to Portland that won high honors and the plaudits of a huge crowd.

It is more important to this community today to get favorable notice in Portland than it was in 1928. Today we have excellent highway connections with Portland and the whole Willamette valley, and it is desirable that the residents of that area be made aware of Klamath Falls as a leading Oregon city well worth visiting, either on a trip that terminates here or when passing through on the best route between the northwest and all California points.

So it is good news Klamath is going to join in the pageantry at Portland's big rose show this year, and here's tribute to the junior chamber and the posse in making this possible. They deserve the community's full cooperation in this enterprise.

Sidelight: Ex-Mayor Clifton Richmond, dodging that hole in Pine street between Seventh and Eighth streets. The ex-mayor can cuss such aggravations at will now, for they're no longer on his conscience.

In case of hostilities, we hope the services of both Captain Easy and Alley Oop are not overlooked. We want them both on our side.

Baghdad Object of German Plans for Last 50 Years

By The Associated Press

Baghdad, the city of Arabian Nights into which British troops have marched a second time in 25 years, has been desired by German imperialists for at least a half century.

Lying on the Tigris river in modern Iraq, Baghdad was built by the Abbassid Caliph Mansur in 762 A.D., on the site of an old Babylonian city of a similar name. Once the center of Islam, Baghdad formed the meeting point of many caravan routes of the middle east.

The fall of the city to the British this time hardly compares with the manner in which it was occupied March 11, 1917, by British and Indian troops under General Sir Stanley Maude.

Ottoman troops commanded by German Field Marshal Von Der Glotz made a shambles of an attempt by the British to take Baghdad late in 1915. Baghdad, during the World war, was headquarters for Turkish resistance. Its capture then was important in greater operations by the British to occupy all Mesopotamia and break the Turks.

The city, now inhabited by Arabs, Turks, Jews, Persians, Kurds, Armenians, Syrians and some Hindus, was made capital of Iraq, independent Arab state formed at the end of the World war, by a readjustment of frontiers.

Baghdad, terminus of a Berlin-Gaghdad railroad of which Kaiser Wilhelm II was said to have fondly dreamed, rose to the rank of a city in the latter half of the eighth century when the Arabs moved from the old town to build on the west bank of the Tigris.

At the height of its fame in the early years of the ninth century, the "abode of peace," as Baghdad is known in the Mohammedan world, was the home of wealthy merchants and learned scholars.

In 1258, Hulaku the Mongol and his hordes overran old Mesopotamia. At the beginning of the 15th century, Baghdad fell under Turkoman domination and a century later became part of the Persian kingdom.

The Turks gained full control of Baghdad in the 19th century but by that time the city was considered remote. It wasn't until the Germans, near the turn of the century, began to mention Baghdad that it became comparatively important again.

Baghdad, now an almost westernized city, exports principally carpets, wool, gum, hides and dates. It has a population of 500,000.

"Check!"

OREGON TRAFFIC DEATHS DECLINE

Improvement in Oregon's traffic accident situation for the first four months of 1941 compared to the same period in 1940 is shown by the traffic death rate, showing the number of persons killed in relation to the exposure to accidents, according to word from the secretary of state's office today.

The death rate so far this year is 10.6 persons killed per one hundred million miles of travel, compared to a rate of 12 for the corresponding period last year.

The decrease in the death rate indicates the improvement in driving and walking practices of Oregon citizens because in spite of a strong increase in the use of motor vehicles, the fatality ratio dropped, it was said. Motor vehicle use increased nearly 17 per cent during the first four months of this year.

SEATTLE LICENSE

SEATTLE, June 3 (AP)—Marriage license applications: Carl V. Larsen, 25, Portland, and Joella Mayer, 23, Klamath Falls.

Milk is delivered in hollow bamboo stalks in India.

More than seventy varieties of cabbage are known to man.

SIDE GLANCES

"I wish our minister would marry so he'd get some home cooking—even when he was saying grace today, I saw him eyeing the roast beef."

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, June 3 — Those uninformed souls who believe Mr. Roosevelt was not sufficiently belligerent in his cooling-systemside chat, may find out why if they will look up the statement of General Marshall, chief of state, issued May 23. He says his training army is in the high school stage at present.

General Marshall's frank discussion may not have gained deserved attention. It did not disclose at what he was shooting. Actually he was aiming at the charges of Congressman Ross Collins that he was accumulating a mass army of men in preparation for a foe who is highly mechanized.

Marshall's answer, in essence, is that he does not have the equipment (mainly tanks) with which to start training a large panzer force or its equivalent. Every soldier must learn the hardening disciplinary methods of an infantryman before he can graduate into specialized warfare methods. So while tanks are being made, he is giving them their high school training.

"As production of material catches up with our development of the manpower our army will contain a higher percentage of mechanized units than any other army," he said, although his figures showed "immediate" and presumably only tentative plans called for a total of eight armored divisions whereas Hitler had 10 at the break through at Sedan.

The head of the U. S. army is a man in whom even the strongest critics of army methods have sincere confidence. He is not known as a devotee of the old army game of passing the buck, a game with which the name of the army has been associated throughout history.

His statement clearly suggests that if this country's army proves insufficient to meet defensive requirements in time, the blame will be with strikers and non-producers who did not give it the weapons in time.

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INFILTRATION

How France fell in this same pit has never been better told than in a paper, in circulation among military men here, by a young French officer, Robert Girard, now a student in the Harvard school of business administration. Girard was in a mechanized suicide squad of 250 French who volunteered to cover the retreat (100 were killed, 50 wounded, 80 taken prisoner, only 17 came back). He is not guessing how the Germans did it. He was there, and writes uncensored.

Instead of the popular conception of masses of tanks rolling in waves, Lt. Girard saw them coming as thin single columns, stabbing like needles, long columns of about 50 medium sized tanks (of which we have none), 10 light tanks, 88 mm. artillery guns, 60 miles or more ahead of the German troops. Girard's suicide squad started out with 10 tanks which got 15 of the Germans before they were all lost in the fighting. Once he lay low in the woods with the remnants of his force, watching single lines of armored nazi divisions coming in such continuous file he was unable to escape across the road all day long.

This he calls a war by infiltration. He found the new 47 mm. anti-tank guns and 5 mm. field artillery effective, but they could not be used long because their crews were exposed. Big ditches will never stop tanks, he says, unless you build big ditches all around your country. The best to start, he thinks, is to get bigger tank forces. The big armor-piercing guns should be in these tanks where the gunners are better protected.

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AIR SUPERIORITY NEEDED

Superiority in the air, however, seems from Girard's account to be primarily necessary. The screaming dive bombers, with wind sirens in their tails, demoralized any concentrated French opposition which the nazi tanks could not easily overcome. Full protection from the air is necessary for any ground troops to withstand the armored needle thrusts.

In defense in depth (something which had not even been worked out by the British in the Balkans) will prove to be the ultimate complete defense. Apparently this will involve a succession of forts along roads, aided by superior numbers of tanks and superiority in the air.

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Fifth columnists? Lt. Girard saw them at work. One afternoon his commanding captain received a visit from a major who said 11 French tanks would be passing along the road at twilight. These could be distinguished by a white flag waving from the turrets. They were to be allowed to pass. At twilight the tanks rolled up on schedule, each with its distinguished white flag. But the captain was a skeptical fellow. He stood in the middle of the road and started to look into the tanks, whereupon they opened fire and escaped. They were seized French tanks. The mysterious major not only had a French uniform but all papers in order.

Dairy

DAIRY—Jack Robers and Victor Flackus of Dairy and Roger Jones of Langell valley, graduates with the class of 1941 at Bonanza high school, recently enrolled at the sheet metal school which is being conducted in the Klamath Union high school building in Klamath Falls.

When the boys complete their 12-week course, they will be sent to Burbank, Calif., to work in one of the Lockheed factories.

Mrs. John Warner, nee Vivian Jonas, with her infant son, John Dale, of Klamath Falls, was visiting old friends in Dairy Wednesday.

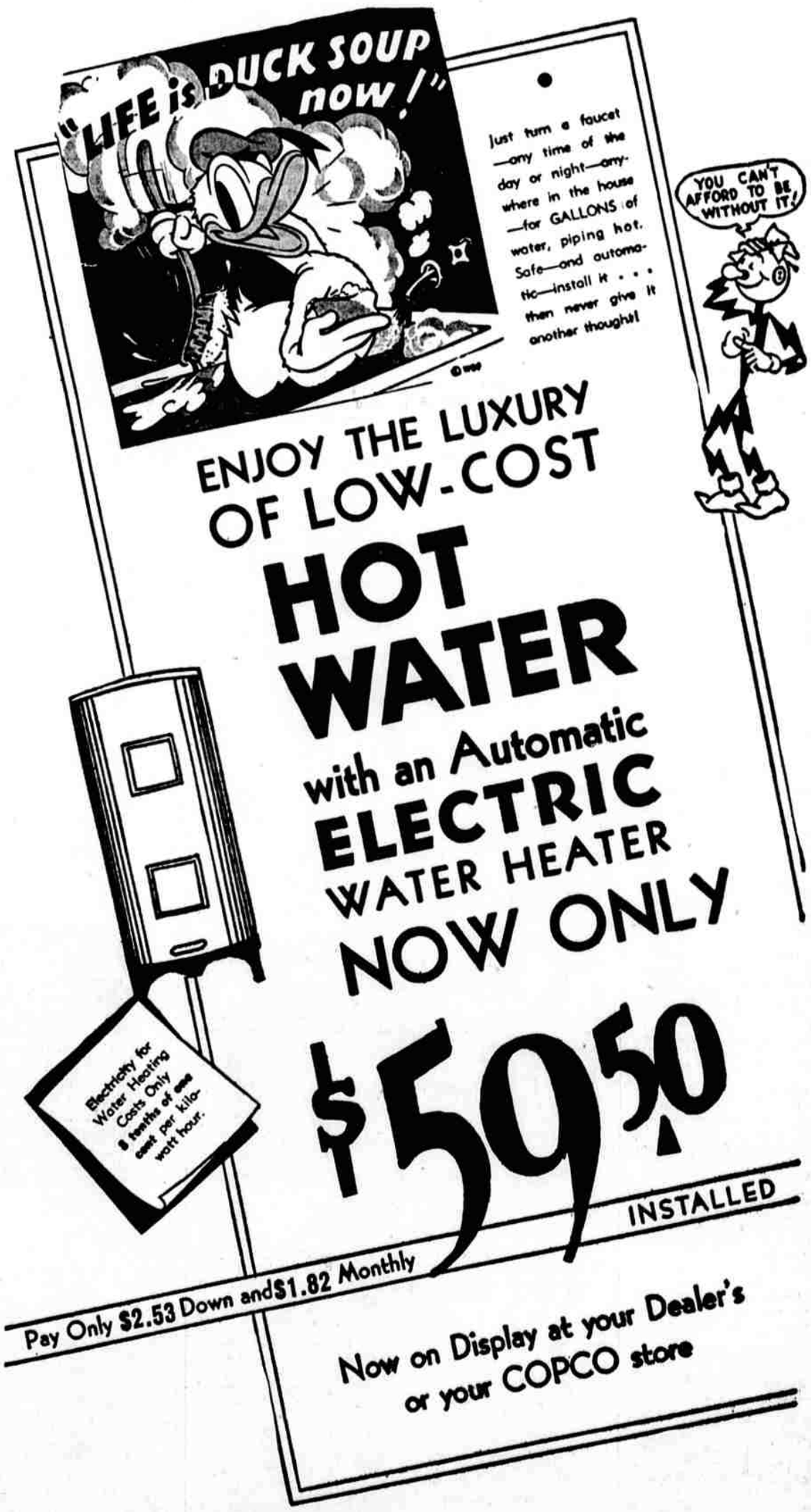
Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Beltcher of Glendale, Ore., paid a surprise visit to their old friend, Olive Mounts of Dairy early Thursday as they were en route to Lakeview.

Mr. and Mrs. Erchel Smith and daughter, Charleen, of Klamath Falls, spent Sunday visiting relatives in Dairy.

Lenore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Jonas of Pine flat, returned to her home last week after spending the school term in Klamath Falls.

Mrs. Sid Hall and Mrs. Ray Roberts and children of Klamath Falls spent Friday in the home of their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Schmoe.

Nadien Schmoe returned home Friday after spending the past week with her cousin, June Taylor, in Dunsmuir, Calif.

One degree of latitude varies in length from 68.7 to 67.4 miles, according to the distance from the equator.

Flavor! Flavor! FLAVOR! No flavor like Wieland's Beer!