

Survivor Of Plane Crash Says He Owes His Life To Heroism Of Major Harding

VANCOUVER, Wash., March 26 (AP)—Major John B. Harding, burned, frost-bitten and unable to walk, nevertheless saved the life of the only other man to survive an army plane crash Sunday.

From their hospital beds here the survivors said Harding and Belmonte were able to walk.

Shortly after the crash, Harding, the pilot from Portland, set out one way, Belmonte another, in a search for help. Harding fell in the deep snow and broke a leg, then crawled back to the wreckage.

Belmonte floundered over steep slopes, woods and streams. He found a deserted shack and spent Sunday night there. The next day he stumbled across the plane wreckage again, where only Harding and two others then were alive.

Belmonte could walk, but Harding, who had suffered second-degree burns on his face, hands and feet, was able only to hop occasionally and to move on his hands, knees and elbows.

They set out together for help, Harding crawling, falling and rolling the 2 1/2 miles to the shack. There, Belmonte said, the major kept him alive by sheltering him in his arms against the cold throughout the night.

Belmonte added that the next day, "I just couldn't make my legs work. I wanted to, but I couldn't."

"The major finally called me yellow—and that worked. . . . Then we heard a motor. At first we thought it was a helicopter, but we yelled and someone answered. The major broke down and cried then, but if it wasn't for the major, I wouldn't be here."

The two left back at the plane were dead by the time a rescue party arrived.

Harding and Belmonte both suffered frozen feet from their two nights in the hills and are at Barnes Hospital.

Harding dismissed Belmonte's remarks on his courage by saying, "When you want to live bad enough, you can do anything."

He added, "You know my wife is going to have a baby in about two months. She's the one I was worried about—how she'd take it."

Circles State



DR. LOUIS A. WOOD

Dr. Wood, Candidate For Senate, Makes Visit Here

Dr. Louis A. Wood, University of Oregon economics professor who is running for the democratic nomination as candidate for the United States senate, passed through here almost on the fly yesterday on his trip around the state during the university's spring vacation.

His teaching commitments virtually prevent Dr. Wood from doing much personal campaigning. Talking to democratic leaders here, the professor said he was giving No. 1 priority on his platform to the current power situation in the Pacific Northwest.

He advocates extension of the Bonneville power administration's construction program through use of federal funds.

Dr. Wood declared that the Pacific Northwest is faced with the general power deficiency which, at the very best, will prevail for several years. He expects power demands to double in 10 years.

The demands can be met, Dr. Wood feels, only through the Bonneville construction along a program already set up but being hampered by appropriation cuts.

mean that power would be generated at McNary dam in 1953 and a main transmission line from The Dalles would reach Klamath Falls by 1954, the Eugene democrat said.

Dr. Wood is trying to circle the state in six days, and here in Southern Oregon was hampered by the snow. He left his car in Medford, caught a bus to Klamath Falls, another bus to Bend, a mail truck to Lakeview and a cargo truck back to Klamath Falls. He left last night by bus for Medford to pick up his car.

The educator has been a resident of Oregon 23 years and has taught at the university for 22. In 1946 he was an unsuccessful candidate for congress from the Oregon fourth district.

Dr. Wood is opposed for the democratic nomination to the senate by Manley Wilson of Wauna, Ore., editor of a CIO International Woodworkers periodical and state legislator.

There are about 310,000,000 cubic miles of water in the oceans of the world.

MARKETS CLOSE

NEW YORK, March 26 (AP)—Security and livestock markets in the United States and Canada were closed today in observance of Good Friday. Limited activity prevailed in some livestock markets.

Tax Talked At Grange Meet

Two meetings were held in March by the Midland grange. Lyle Hickman presided over the first on March 3, when Leon Andrieu was attending at the Pacific Supply Co-operative at Portland as the local delegate.

An interesting program was put on by the youth committee with George Flowers in charge. The refreshments were furnished and served by Mr. and Mrs. John Beebe and Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Beebe.

The excise tax brought on a lively discussion at the March 17 meeting. Julian Abbott was elected to replace the resigning overseer, Ernest Milani. Abbott was immediately installed by Phil Motchenbacher.

Secretary Verland Huff announced that all members have paid their dues for the year, thus

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making the grange eligible for the pennant awarded by the state grange. Two new members were obligated. Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Largent and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Walker served refreshments.

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Rotary To Hold 5-Way Club Meet

Phillip H. Parrish, editor of the editorial page of the Portland Oregonian and author, will address an inter-city meeting of Southern Oregon and Northern California Rotary clubs Monday, March 29 at the Rogue Valley Country club in Medford. Scott Leavitt, governor of district 102, Rotary International, will also come to Medford for the silver anniversary celebration of the Medford Rotary club, and participating in the meeting will be the clubs of Klamath Falls, Grants, Pass and Ashland in Oregon and Yreka in California.

Parrish, who has a long and distinguished record in Oregon journalism, was invited by the war department to make a survey of the European theater in the fall of 1946. A year later the war department asked him to revisit Europe and retrace his previous route and make a progress report. His address in Medford Monday will be a summary of these visits which, in the light of fast-moving events in Europe will be enlightening and timely.

A veteran of World War I, Parrish has long been a student of world affairs and Oregon history. He was chairman of the Old Oregon Trail Centennial commission in 1942-43 and is author of "Before the Covered Wagon" and "Historic Oregon."

Among the speakers at the inter-city meeting will be Governor Leavitt, W. A. Gates and Morris B. Leonard of Medford, Alfred D. Collier of Klamath Falls, W. W. Baldersee of Grants Pass, Orson N. Wray of Ashland, and Dan Gardner of Yreka. Representatives of the Rotary club at Shady Cove, now in organizational stage, will also participate in the meeting. Lee Yancy will head this group.

Kenneth Nelson of Medford will head the club singing and the boys' octette of Medford high school will entertain under the direction of Lorraine Veldt, the school's vocal instructor. Walter H. Leverette, president of the Medford Rotary club, will be chairman for the meeting.

Vanport College To Be Continued

PORTLAND, March 26 (AP)—Vanport college may continue operation for another decade.

Edgar W. Smith, chairman of the state board of higher education, said here yesterday, "statistics show we may expect a large veteran enrollment for another 10 or 12 years, and as long as there is need for lower division work in the Portland area it will be offered for them."

Vanport college was started after the war by the state board to take care of the veteran demand for schooling.

Worker Struck With Diabetes

SECAUCUS, N. J., March 26 (AP)—For 20 years since Charles Seeley was stricken with diabetes, his wife followed him to work each day, administering one of the three insulin injections he required daily.

She came from her home in East Rutherford yesterday, ready with another injection as her husband completed repairs atop a pole. Waiting in a nearby truck, she watched him slump suddenly in his safety belt.

Other linemen brought him down, but it was too late for Mrs. Seeley's injection. Authorities at West Hudson hospital in nearby Kearny said he had succumbed to the disease.

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