

Quiet Bulldog

Crommelin, Straight Talking Skipper, Has Plenty of Spunk

By RUTH COWAN
WASHINGTON, Oct. 8 (AP)—What manner of man is Capt. John G. Crommelin Jr.?

He said he realized he likely was tossing away his navy career, but did in the hope that congress would investigate.

He and Mrs. Crommelin, the former Lillian E. Landis of San Diego, Calif., have three children. The family calls Wetumpka, Ala., home.

He is one of five brothers, all graduates of the naval academy. All but one trained as pilots. Two were killed in the last war.

He has a distinguished war record. And very shortly he was due to be considered for promotion to rear admiral.

His friends say he has the tenacity of a bulldog. He is positive in his convictions.

As a pilot he is rated "top." Rear Adm. Austin K. Doyle, head of the naval air training program, described him as "one of the greatest naval aviators of all time."

His 1923 class yearbook at the naval academy described him as "carrying a mean wallop" in his fist. He was introduced as "a typical Southern gentleman, fond of dogs, little children and pretty women."

Keen for Aviation
The young ensign was keenly interested in aviation. But first the navy required he spend two years on sea duty. This done, he went to the naval air station at Pensacola, Fla.

From the time he finished his training in 1926 until the outbreak of the war he had a variety of aviation assignments that gave him extensive training.

When war came he was on duty in Washington. In June, 1942, he was assigned to the carrier Enterprise.

While Crommelin served with the "Big E" he participated in the occupation of Guadalcanal and in the battles of the Stewart Islands, the Solomon Islands, and the Rennell Islands.

Cited For Bravery
He was commended "for especially meritorious performance of duty under fire." His "calm courage" was noted as well as the skillful aggressiveness and fighting spirit it he was credited with installing in the pilots he led.

He was aboard the Liscombe Bay when she was torpedoed and sunk in the Gilbert Islands.

In recent weeks there has been an outcropping of "letters to editors" about Crommelin. One of these came from a former enlisted man who told of Crommelin's courage when the Liscombe Bay was sunk.

Calm Courage
He wrote that after Crommelin, badly burned, made it to a rescue craft he quite calmly discussed whether it was worth while for him to hang on.

After the war, Crommelin had more Washington duty and then when the new aircraft carrier Sarpan was ready to go to sea he was named her first skipper.

A couple of more assignments and then, last April, he was attached to the joint chiefs of staff, this country's military high command. Then he publicly charged that the navy's

Youngsters Learn Work Of Firemen

Fire Marshal Roy Rowe of the city fire department has taken over a project of organizing student firemen in the city's elementary schools.

Each school has a student chief and assistant chief, whose job it is to oversee school fire drills. In addition to the two top jobs, captains, room marshals, inspectors and firemen are chosen in each school.

Badges are furnished by the junior firemen. Job of the captains is to check completion of drills and notify the chief as soon as each captain's section is free of occupants. Room marshals lead their classes out of the building, are informed of at least two exits from their section of the building and see that all children are out of the room.

Rowe said the idea of the plan is to impress upon the city's school youngsters the importance of precautions against fire and to make them conscious of fire dangers.

Four Found Shot To Death

PORT WORTH, Tex., Oct. 10 (AP)—Four persons were found shot to death today at their home in suburban Oak Knoll.

They were identified by neighbors as: Mrs. Richard G. Finch, about 33; Penelope Finch, 8, her daughter; Allan Finch, 7, her son; a Mrs. Walker, identified as the children's maternal grandmother.

A next door neighbor, Mrs. T. C. Hukill, discovered the bodies when she went to inquire about the children whom she usually drove to school with her own child.

Mrs. Hukill said she last saw the family Saturday. Neighbors said the grandmother had come here recently from Florida.

The original forest area of the United States is estimated at 820 million acres — nearly half the country's land area.

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TYPICAL SCHOOL FIREMEN are these two young boys who were chosen chief and assistant chief at Fremont Junior high. From left are City Fireman Roy Rowe who is organizing the junior firemen, Fremont Chief Gordon Campbell, Assistant Chief Rudy Westin, and Principal Lowell Kaup. A similar program is being conducted in all the city's elementary schools.

Tax Tizzy Here's Old-Age Funds Setup, And Arguments Pro and Con

By JAMES MARLOW
WASHINGTON, Oct. 10 (AP)—Do you ever wonder what happens to the social security tax you pay into the old-age pension plan?

There are arguments over how that tax money is handled. But there is no sign that the present system will be changed.

The arguments will be outlined briefly here. But, first, here is the background.

You and Boss Pay
If you're covered by the pension plan, you and your boss each pay yearly one per cent of your salary up to the first \$3000.

That's a total of two per cent you and your boss pay. The government now is collecting yearly about \$1,800,000,000 that way.

Out of that, it's paying yearly in pensions and other benefits about \$7,000,000,000, leaving a yearly reserve of around \$1,100,000,000.

Since 1937, when it first started collecting this tax, the social security system has built up a reserve of around \$1,700,000,000.

The money doesn't lie idle. Congress said it should be invested in government bonds, which now pay around 2 1/2 per cent interest.

So the social security reserve

fund, invested in those government bonds, is earning money. So much for that for a moment.

The government has a debt of \$255,000,000,000. It got into that debt mainly in the war and depression days.

That's when the cost of running the government far exceeded the money it was able to collect, mostly in income and corporation taxes.

So, as it got further and further into debt and needed extra money to keep going, it borrowed money. It did the borrowing by selling bonds to banks, life insurance companies, you and me, and to the social security reserve fund.

Interest
On all the bonds it sold, of course, including bonds sold to the social security reserve fund, the government must pay interest.

So the government has a double job in handling that debt: to pay off some of the debt while at the same time paying interest on it.

The man and his employer who pays a total of two per cent social security tax on the man's first

\$3000 of salary, also pay income taxes.

And — part of their income is used for paying off some of the interest on the debt — including the interest on the government bonds bought by the social security fund.

Double Taxation?
Critics of the present system say this is double taxation. They suggest that the old-age pension plan be placed on the pay-as-you-go basis, which means:

Instead of collecting enough social security taxes every year to pay out social security benefits for that and still have enough left over to build up a reserve that can be invested in government bonds, the government should collect yearly

from the people in old-age pension expenses for that year.

Those in favor of the present system argue if the government had borrowed from banks or other private organizations, by selling them bonds, the government would have had to pay interest on them anyway. So part of the income tax money — paid by people who also pay the social security tax — would have had to be used in paying off the interest on the bonds no matter who had bought those bonds.

To Buy or Sell—Use the Want-Ads!

Washington State, Dairy Champ

PORTLAND, Oct. 10 (AP)—Washington State college carried off first honors yesterday in the annual intercollegiate dairy judging contest at the Pacific International Livestock Exposition.

Ranking behind W. S. C. were University of Idaho, Oregon State college, University of British Columbia, Colorado State college, and Montana State college.

In the dairy products judging, the

Utah State college team was first, University of Idaho team second and Washington State college third.

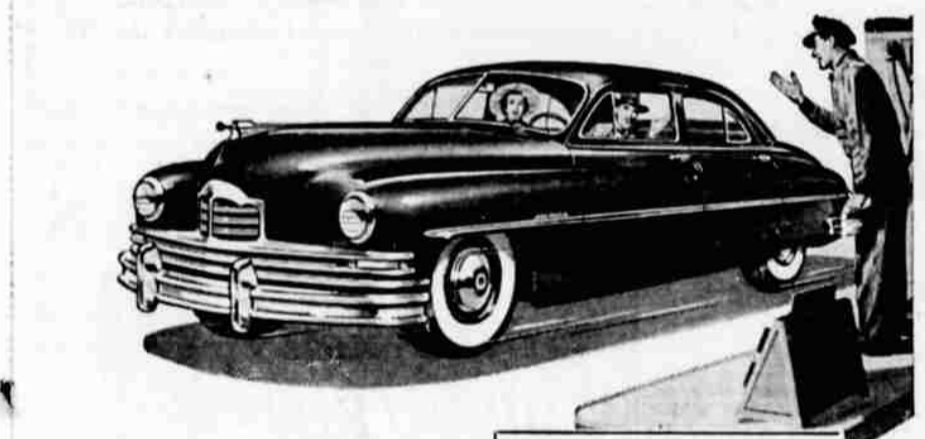
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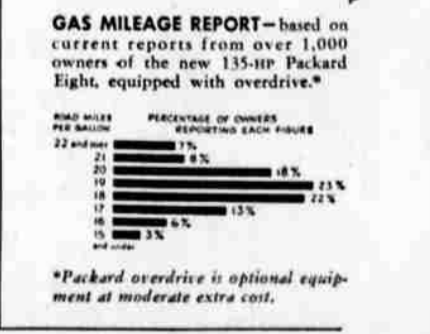
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