

Herald and News

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By DEB ADDISON

One of our boys is leaving. Jim Morrison, who once was a Klamath Falls schoolboy, went to work for the Klamath News as night editor before the war, when we still published the News as a separate morning edition.

Then, just in time to catch the headlines of publishing during World War II, he bought the Butte Valley Star at Dorris. He and his wife, Willa, put out the Star during most of the war, and sold out in the summer of 1945.

With the deal to sell his paper in the wind, Jim talked to us about going to work here to get some more advertising experience. You're truly a one-man-band staff at the time, while Jim McDonald wore the navy blues. It was decided that Jim would be a member of the ad staff until McDonald got back. He had the idea of working until then, and then buying another weekly paper.

So Jim sold the Star, took a vacation, and went to work for the Herald and News.

Jim went to work the first of October; Mac got out of the navy and came back to work the first of November.

That tour of one month's ad duty didn't end it. That one month stretched out to more than six years. But now Jim is leaving. He'll go to work for The Oregonian in Portland the first of the year. The Morrisesons will move to their new home in Portland next week.

It takes nerve to uproot a family, cut all ties and embark on a new career in the sharp, cold competition of a city.

We doff our hats to Jim, and to Willa and the two boys, and wish him real success on the big paper. When opportunity comes up, as it does more often on a big operation in a big town, we're sure that Jim will be ready.

Worldwide Bible Reading for tonight: Philippians 4:1-13.

James Marlow

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Truman has a couple of remedies he can try in an effort to stop a steel strike which Philip Murray's CIO steelworkers say they'll pull January 1 if they don't get a raise by then.

Truman could (A) dump the problem in the lap of the wage stabilization board, which he might do in preference to using (B) the Taft-Hartley act, through which he could delay a strike 80 days.

No doubt the president will handle the case delicately since Murray is one of his strongest backers and it isn't politically smart to alienate your friends unnecessarily.

But the president has another and, so far as the rest of the country is concerned, a stronger reason for being careful here: if he pokes a hole in the anti-inflation curtain to help Murray, living costs go up.

The steelworkers want a new contract giving them higher wages and other benefits. Murray warns they won't work without a contract and if they don't have a new one when the old one ends January 1, they'll strike.

The U.S. Steel Corp. says it can't raise wages a penny unless the government permits it to raise prices to pay for the raise, which into rams the whole dispute here into the anti-inflation program: CEILINGS ON BOTH

The government's office of price stabilization (OPS) and the wage stabilization board (WSB) have put ceilings on prices and wages to keep both of them down.

If it breaks the ceilings in this case to avoid a steel strike, then it has opened the door for other unions and companies to demand higher wages and prices.

Of course, there's a question of whether the industry, out of its present profits, can afford to raise wages without needing a price increase to pay for them.

If it can, it would seem the dispute can be settled by January 1 between the union and the industry, and nobody gets hurt. But its own statements that it can't taken at face value would indicate the OPS and WSB will have to get into this mix-up before it's over.

This is what the president can do if a strike seems certain on January 1.

Taft-Hartley. Under this law he could declare that a strike would create a national emergency. The attorney general would ask

They'll Do It Every Time



GOP Gaining on Democrats As Voters Switch Loyalties

By HALE SCARBROUGH
At the time of the last general election (November, 1950) Klamath county had a total voter registration of about 22,000.

Only about half that number voted. Oregon state law requires that the county clerk clean up the poll books every so often, whacking off the registrations of persons who failed to vote in two previous statewide elections.

To that end, County Clerk Charlie DeLap has mailed out notices to about 7000 registrants who failed to vote in either the primary or general election of 1950 that they're just about to be dropped from the eligible voter lists. Those of the 7000 who answer the warnings, still that they're still alive and still interested in voting in Klamath county, will be left on the books. Those who don't will be dropped.

Because of the poll book cleaning now underway it is impossible to get an accurate check on how registration figures stand for Klamath county just now. Probably a hard and fast count will not be obtained before April 15, when the books are closed prior to the coming May 16, 1952 primary election.

But the Republicans are gaining. In the past few months, the county clerk's office reports, there has been a fairly steady trickle of persons coming in to change their registration from Democratic to Republican, and almost no changes from Republicans to Democrat.

A couple of years ago the Democrats led by a rough tally of 12,000 to 9,000.

The margin probably will not be so great next spring, although the Democrats can still be expected to have a paper-strength lead in the county. A paper strength majority is about what the 1950 Democratic lead amounted to, and the 1948 Demo lead. In state and local voting Republicans generally were chosen.

The voters of Klamath county this coming year will elect a circuit judge, a district attorney, sheriff, county clerk, assessor, one county commissioner, a district court judge, city of Klamath Falls voters will choose a mayor and three councilmen. In addition at the May primary Republican and Democratic precinct committees and committeewomen will be chosen in each of the 77 precincts.

The earliest date candidates for county, city or precinct offices may file is February 6. The latest date is March 7. Applications for absent

tee ballots may be made with the county clerk after March by persons who will be out of their voting precinct election-day, or who are ill or who live 15 miles or more from a polling place.

NEW YORK (AP)—This weekend some unknown American will get the honor that no one wants. It is the honor of becoming the 1,000,000th automobile fatality in this country.

The person who gets this dubious distinction may even now be curiously following the national safety council's careful check of traffic deaths as they near the 1,000,000 mark, and saying to himself: "Boy, I'd hate to be the unlucky guy they're looking for."

Who will it be? The first man killed by a motor car was a pedestrian, a broker, who was run down here the evening of September 13, 1880.

Who will the 1,000,000th be? A school child darting across the street? A housewife driving home from Christmas shopping? An old lady coming home from church? A teenager speeding his jalopy too fast around an icy curve? A drunk behind a wheel where he doesn't belong?

There is something macabre about the air of expectancy with which the nation awaits the identity of the 1,000,000th traffic victim in 51 years.

Death on the highways has become so commonplace it has become a fact of existence, a risk the American people are so accustomed to that they no longer think it very odd that motor vehicles have caused them more casualties in half a century than all their wars put together.

The slaughter goes on all but unnoticed except in the homes it touches. . . . 100 yesterday . . . 100 today . . . 100 tomorrow. . . . Who will the 1,000,000th victim be? Rich man . . . poor man . . . or a baby in someone's arm?

The one sure thing is that it might be you. Of course, the odds are in your favor. The chances on any one day are about 1,350,000-to-1 that you won't be killed by an automobile. Your chances against being maimed aren't that high.

If you are the unlucky 1,000,000th fatality, the chances are that you will die in an accident that could have been avoided.

They will cart you, bleeding, to a morgue, where you will lie until grieving relatives come and identify you. There will probably be pictures in the papers from coast to coast of how you looked, alive, and how you looked dead, and the story of how you kept your small rendezvous with destiny. There will be several thousand editorials to lament your passing and to point out against the old moral, "It's better to be safe than sorry."

You will be a brief celebrity for sure—a celebrated corpse for a day.

This kind of fame, however, is hardly rewarding. You will have made a sad Christmas season for those who loved you, and you yourself will have lost that bright gift of time-life.

The automobiles will go right on killing . . . the toll will begin its climb toward the second millionth victim . . . and you will be forgotten, or remembered at best as only a minor footnote in the history of the machine age.

FLAGG'S NEW JOB

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore.—I notice by the papers that George Flagg has been appointed public relations man for the truckers industry.

Possibly he can teach the public to like having our highways smashed as fast as we can build them.

Also he may be able to explain to the public how these trucks can violate a city ordinance and a state law about noise of the exhaust. If I drive my car with a "cut-out" I am fined. These trucks go through sounding like a machine gun in action.

I built a trailer park to park 40 trailers and then find I can't rent half of them because of noisy trucks.

Make them put on mufflers, not just pipes.

J. Y. Kindig
97 Trailer Park

VATICAN REPRESENTATIVE

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore.—I read the results of a roundtable discussion (Subject: Should the United States send an Ambassador to the Vatican?) at one of the local churches and as a newcomer to Klamath Falls I was astounded at a statement made by one layman and applauded.

First, I am a Protestant (a Lutheran) and I've always understood the word Christian to mean Christ-like. Doesn't it include tolerance and love for each other?

I wonder if Christ really was present when one person said he was opposed to a Vatican representative because he was opposed to anything Catholic all the way down the line.

I am not arguing the question, but I wonder if the same people couldn't have spent the time better winning souls for God than condemning others who worship the same Holy Trinity but in a different way.

Mrs. Dale DeLong
1587 Martin

COMMUNITY CHEST

KLAMATH FALLS — I attended the meeting of the director of our community chest held Wednesday (December 13) and reported on it in your paper on Thursday, including the plan I proposed at said meeting to raise the 1951 chest a 100 percent success.

I am not arguing the question, but I wonder if the same people couldn't have spent the time better winning souls for God than condemning others who worship the same Holy Trinity but in a different way.

My plan is copied from a town in the East, about the size of Klamath Falls, which needed \$35,000 to finance a children's hospital. The mayor and several prominent citizens cooperated, were sentenced to jail and dressed in flashy prison stripes. Then the good people of the town came down to see them and donate funds to bail out the poor prisoners. The money poured in 100 percent, lots of fun and nobody hurt.

Now for the local play: We have a mayor we the people pay a BIG salary and his time is ours. A day or two in the clink would make a better mayor of him and help a very worthy cause. Then there is Judge Reeder of the county court. We all voted for him, and he surely owes a few hours "doing time."

One maverick from the city council could help the fun too. And there's Sheriff Jack Franey who always gets his man and would be a good man to get. Then we come to the ministers of our churches, always ready to help a good cause as well as punish us with some terrible sermons. Two of these should be summoned to court and put away until they see the light and mend their ways.

Why a fancy new city jail except for our best citizens? With the cooperation of press, radio and our best chest workers I firmly believe this plan would succeed in reaching our goal and give our children many good things they will not otherwise receive.

The Klamath community has a big heart. We are a 100 percent county, not a 66 percent county. We give to help ourselves, our community chest.

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