



PICTURES THE SMILES — Cpl. Charles Reas, of Brooklyn gets smiles from WAC Cpl. Betty L. Turner, center, Canton, O., and Pfc. Delores M. Serres, Houston, Tex., on Okinawa Beach.

No Hope for End To Australian Drought

By O. A. GUTH
BYDNEY, Australia (AP) — All hope of relief before November from the great North Australian drought now has been officially abandoned.

take at least five years. A Brisbane newspaper editor has just returned from a 2,500-mile tour of the stricken area including the world's largest cattle station, Alexandria Downs, which sprawls over 11,200 square miles. "There is hardly a drop of surface water left," says the editor in his report. "Some 50,000 cattle are already dead in the northern territory alone. The death toll could be 150,000 by November."

from Darwin. They say light, bogging showers now will only hasten the death of the 1,000,000 head of cattle in the drought region. An area comparable in size with the whole of free Europe is gripped by a strange and devastating drought which experts believe will have its repercussions on trade and even defense for 10 to 15 years. Already the minister for agriculture and commerce, J. McEwen, has announced Australia cannot expect to export any beef this year. The drought is expected to cut the output of beef by nearly 100,000 tons. Australia's output of beef last year was 652,000 tons, of which more than 60,000 was exported. The beef cattle population was 10,500,000, a record.

gaunt shaky-legged bullocks and cows face freezing nights. In mornings they are found dead curled up like tired kittens for warmth. "This epic tragedy is entirely the result of the failure of the monsoonal summer rains on which the north depends for its very life."

The government has been asked to throw the Australian Army into the job of bringing water to the cattle, or moving the livestock to areas where water is available.

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Escapee Captured

PORTLAND (AP) — Lee J. Marsh, 33-year-old escapee from the state prison farm, was back in custody Monday.

State police captured him Saturday near Brightwood where he said he had gone to get truckers for his 37-acre strawberry farm near Gresham.

Marsh told police he had been to Montana and back since his escape last March. He was flown there by a friend and worked until he had enough money to buy a car, he said. Police said he drove back to his farm at Gresham and was operating it at the time of his capture. He had a little more than a year of a three-year prison sentence to serve at the time of his escape. He had been convicted of larceny in Tillamook county.

Beef export for the nine months to the end of March brought Australia \$9,755,209, a drop of \$1,612,800 from the corresponding period in 1950-51. Pastoral authorities say the severe drought will make beef scarce on the Australian market for several months and is bound to bring increased prices. Exports probably will be limited for several years because of severe losses among breeding cows and calves. The Australian Agricultural Council said recovery from the drought in Northern Australia will

Union Group Names Head

SEASIDE (AP) — Cliff Harris, Portland, is the new president of the Oregon Building and Construction Trades Council.

The council, an organization of AFL unions, elected Harris at its annual convention here Sunday — one day ahead of the convention of the Oregon State Federation of Labor, which opened Monday.

Other officers include: Dave Cameron, vice president, and Volney Marlin, secretary, both of Portland.

The council approved a series of resolutions calling for legislative action to improve labor laws.

Changes sought include: Tightening of laws regarding use of unsafe machinery and appliances.

Increased unemployment and disability benefits and better protection for apprentices injured in accidents.

Extension of the State Unemployment Compensation Act so that all workers are covered.

Extension of the Workmen's Compensation Act to include employees of such non-profit organizations as hospitals, churches and schools.

Amendment of the State Accident Insurance Act under which the council said workers had been denied benefits because they could not prove an accident had not occurred at home instead of on the job as claimed.

Another resolution called for immediate construction of Pacific Northwest power dams by both private industry and the federal government.

Best Speech By Idaho Man

YAKIMA (AP) — A Boise, Idaho, man, Lt. R. E. Montgomery, took top honors in the Toastmasters International Conference speech contest here Saturday night, winning the right to enter the national speech finals Aug. 14-15 at Chicago.

Second place in the contest was won by Equid Turner, Pendleton, Ore., who was named an alternate to the Chicago competition.

New officers elected were Raymond T. McKenzie, Tacoma, chairman of Zone A, and Ed J. Strecker, Spokane, co-chairman.

NLRB Sets Strike Meet

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — National Labor Relations Board officials planned to meet separately with shipowners and labor this week in an effort to end the 22-day strike of the AFL Sailors Union of the Pacific.

The dispute has tied up some 60 vessels in West Coast ports. The sailors ask a five per cent pay increase and overtime for Saturdays at sea.

The shipowners, through the Pacific Maritime Association, refused to discuss wages until the union agrees to a one-year contract with a no strike pledge, instead of a contract which may be cancelled on 60 days' notice, as formerly.

Daughters of Nile Meet in Portland

PORTLAND (AP) — Nearly 1,000 Daughters of the Nile were in Portland Monday for the organization's 36th annual convention.

Mrs. Thomas Luke, Portland, will be installed as supreme queen, succeeding Mrs. Thelma B. Small, Evansville, Ind., during the five-day session. Daughters of the Nile are women relatives of members of the Shrine.

Salem Site Of Bank Meet

SALEM (AP) — The Oregon Bankers Association opened its two-day convention here Monday.

The delegates heard an address by Frank M. Totton, New York, vice president of Chase National Bank.

CASUALTY LIST

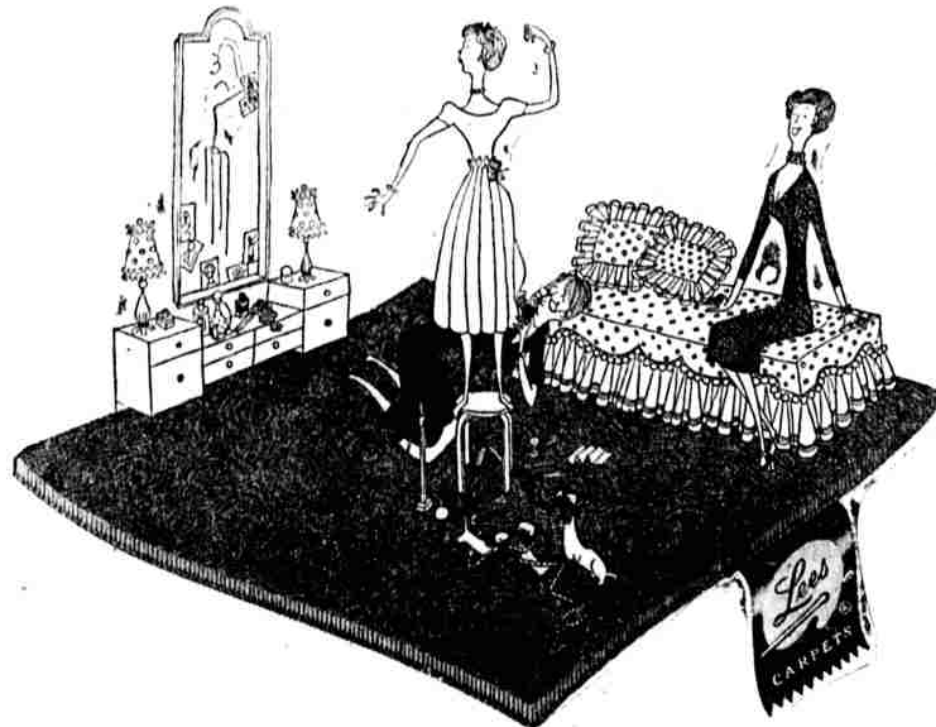
WASHINGTON (AP) — The Defense Department Monday identified 62 more Korean War casualties (list No. 586). Of the total, eight are dead, 52 wounded and two injured in battlezone accidents.

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