



MR. AND MRS. W. L. HARRIS

New Nerve Gas Antidote To Be Stockpiled By Military

By ALTON L. BLAKESLEE

Associated Press Science Reporter
NEW YORK, Feb. 17 (AP)—The life-saving antidote for frightening nerve-gas war now can be made artificially, and there is already enough to treat 400 million persons, it was disclosed today.

The drug is atropine, until now obtained only from plants grown mostly in Iran, Turkey and countries controlled by Russia.

The synthetic drug, made with chemicals from petroleum, frees this country from dependence upon foreign supplies.

Synthetic production of atropine is announced by Winthrop-Stearns, Inc., of New York City and Rensselaer, N. Y.

Nerve gas blocks or paralyzes nerves, causing death unless quickly counteracted. Atropine is the best known antidote, for it neutralizes the paralyzing chemical in nerve gas.

The firm has supplied 330 pounds of atropine for Defense Department stockpiles. A life-saving dose is only 1-150th of a grain of atropine sulfate. Thus a single pound of atropine is enough to treat more than one million persons. The drug can be stockpiled, in ampules ready for injection, at strategic locations for military or civilian use.

Atropine is obtained naturally from atropa belladonna and datura stramonium. The biggest producers of these plants are Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania and Yugoslavia, with some now beginning to be grown in Australia.

"There is evidence that large

quantities of natural atropine have been disappearing recently behind the Iron Curtain," said Dr. Theodore G. Klump, president of Winthrop-Stearns.

About 1,000 pounds of atropine are used annually in this country, mostly as an anti-spasmodic to relax muscles in treating gastro-intestinal disorders, and for eye drops in eye examinations.

Synthesis of the drug was achieved by research teams of Sterling-Winthrop Research Institute, Rensselaer, and Winthrop-Stearns, building on developments by other scientists.

Forestry Expert Elected To Post

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP)—Election of Stephen N. Wyckoff to be executive vice president of the Forest Genetics Research Foundation here was announced Wednesday.

Wyckoff recently retired after 35 years as one of the top research men of the U. S. Forest Service. Before coming to California he directed forest service research in the Pacific Northwest and in the Rocky Mountain region.

NEWS BLANKET
MANILA (AP)—The U. S. Air Force has clamped a tight security on its newest aircraft operations from Clark Air Force Base near here to Indochina.

Brig. Gen. John W. Sessions said he was under instructions not to release any information on the movement of supplies for 250 U. S. technicians sent to Indochina.

Local Resident Tells Of Miraculous Escapes During Wars: Once Listed Dead

By RUTH KING

An ex-serviceman, declared by the war department to have been a casualty on Corregidor, who fought through some of the toughest battles of World War II and Korea, who survived the death march from Bataan, Japan's toughest prisons, a "hell ship," and by a quirk of fate, death in a plane crash, is now a resident of Klamath Falls.

He is W. L. Harris, 31, a native of Oklahoma, now employed by Foster and Kleiser, Klamath Falls sign concern. His wife Marie, a

registered nurse, who won citations for bravery under fire as a captain in the Army Nurse Corps during both wars is employed by Dr. Ralph W. Stearns.

The story of Harris' miraculous escapes was learned this week after he visited the Art Center, 1227 Main, to view an exhibit of pencil sketches by Ben Steele, artist, who went through the same experiences that Harris knew in World War II.

Steele, now post arts and crafts director at Fort Riley, Kansas, lost his first drawings while a prisoner on a ship, taking captured Americans to Japan's mainland. Later, following his release, he completed the drawings now in Klamath Falls from memory, so vividly, that

Harris was able to identify some of the victims.

A third man, Ben Davis, of Oklahoma, who was with Harris in a CCO camp before enlisting in the army, and a buddy of Harris through the war years, was lost in a plane crash following his release from prison as he was enroute to the United States.

Harris, then 18, with consent of his father, a physician and surgeon in Oklahoma, enlisted and went overseas with the 59th Coast Artillery, battery H, before the war with Japan. His battery was sent to Corregidor and took the brunt of the early fighting following the initial attack.

Harris recalls there was little ammunition to fire against the advancing enemy. Troops were not permitted to fire a shot without orders from "the tunnel," and these orders were irregular. Troops, like sitting ducks, died under the terrific assaults.

Two meals a day were issued. Coffee was made from salt water after the fresh water supply was knocked out by Japanese planes.

Corregidor fell. Harris and his fellow Americans were stripped of all valuables and their cash, marched to a seaport, loaded onto skiffs, barges and rafts and started on the death march that ended in misery and death for most of them. Their destination was Bilibid prison.

His family was notified of his death on Corregidor. His name was placed on the honor roll of dead.

For three years, seven months, one week and three days he was a prisoner of war, without writing a letter home.

That march and the terrible days that followed, have been poignantly recalled by the crayon of Ben Steele, in the series of pic-

tures, now at the Art Center. The exhibit, by public demand, is being held for another week and is open at all times to the public.

Steele drew on every available scrap of paper. His fellow prisoners helped keep him supplied. He recorded the maimed faces, the tattered clothes, the hopeless expressions, living conditions, deaths and burials of the men about him.

Then came the horrors of the death ships enroute to Japan when men were given a teaspoon of dry rice twice a day. . . were sprayed with salt water from a hose above to lessen the unbearable heat. There were 104 emaciated, starving men, packed into the hold of the ship carrying Davis, Steele and Harris to the copper mines in Japan. The trip took 17 days. Hundreds did not live to land. Of five ships in the convoy, two were torpedoed with all on board lost.

On landing, five hundred were stung out to work in the copper mines at Sindi. Fate of the others was never learned.

The hopeless months dragged on until the day when an American army jeep entered the barbed wire compound and World War II was over.

Harris was assigned to a plane for the return trip home, his close friend Ben Davis, to a boat. Because they wanted to continue to travel together, they sought a change of orders, which were mixed by army headquarters. In the final shift, Harris was put on a boat and Davis on the plane originally assigned to Harris. Somewhere in the Pacific that plane was lost with all 48 men on board.

Harris returned home to find his name on the honor roll of dead. That was in 1945.

Two of his younger brothers joined the army. "W. L." to be near them re-enlisted and went to

Fort Lewis where he broke an ankle.

The war in Korea flamed and the three brothers were sent across, "W. L." as mess sergeant on a hospital train, bringing wounded from the front lines to hospital care at the rear. His trains were frequently under heavy fire, one engineer was killed at the throttle but Harris rode unscathed.

Then . . . romance came riding the rails. A pretty nurse who had also won battle ribbons in World War II in the European theater, came

aboard. Her first morning, most of the food had been served to the wounded men and breakfast cooked by the mess sergeant for her was fish and crackers. He learned her name, Captain Marie Hall, native of Canada, a naturalized citizen in the U. S.

Their courtship blossomed under gunfire. He took her dating, a gun in the crook of an arm. They were missed by snipers as they strolled across the bullet-shredded land, learned about each other's family through the din of big guns.

Eisenhower became president

and the war was ended. Miss Hall and Harris came back to the United States, were married. A year ago they came to Klamath Falls to make their home at 4441 Denver.

HOTELS
OSBURN HOLLAND
EUGENE, ORE. MEDFORD
Thoroughly Modern
Mrs. J. E. Earley-Joe Earley Jr.
Proprietors

OLD FORT TAVERN BRONCO ROOM

DANCE

To The Music of

"DRIFTING

JOHNNY SMITH"

The Nation's Leading One Man Western Band

Star of TV, Stage and Radio

NIGHTLY

Except Monday and Tuesday

Also Playing

Sun. Afternoon & Evening

No Cover - No Minimum



EXCLUSIVE AT WEISFIELD'S SALE! Nationally-famous brands!

108-PIECE SERVICE FOR 8

Harmonized for color - coordinated for use!

★ 45-Pc. "SELKIRK" DINNER SET

★ 32-Pc. SILVERPLATE SERVICE

★ 24-Pc. GREEN GLASSWARE SET

PLUS at no extra cost

★ 7-Pc. HAND-DECORATED

CRYSTAL SALAD SET

Usually Sells
for 44.50

29.95

NO
MONEY
DOWN
73c WEEK

Just everything you've ever dreamed about to make YOUR table look like a page from a decorator's magazine! This 108-piece "Selkirk" service is truly a table ensemble harmonized for color . . . and completely coordinated for use in today's modern, smart homes! The dinnerware for 8 people is the stunning new "Selkirk" green plaid, in an all-around set you'll use right from breakfast and TV snack-time to big Sunday company dinners! Its durable body and glaze are perfect for hard everyday use . . . and "Selkirk" plaid dinnerware is GUARANTEED color-fast, even with the strongest detergents, because that plaid design is fired UNDER the glaze! Matched to the rich green plaid dinnerware is the emerald-green sparkle of the glassware service for 8 . . . and the graceful hand-painted green leaf decoration on the chandelier-bright crystal salad set. To set it all off elegantly, we give you the "Selkirk" pattern in silverplate made by America's largest silverware manufacturer. For that matter, EVERY piece here has been designed and made by one of the top manufacturers in his field . . . names we can't mention because of this rock-bottom low price! But you'd pay dollars more if you bought each unit separately under its usual brand name! So hurry to take advantage of this breath-taking sale price . . . then you, your family and your guests will have table beauty to enjoy for years to come! We said "hurry" . . . because quantities are limited!



WEISFIELD'S

THE NORTHWEST'S LARGEST

CREDIT

701 MAIN STREET

DAILY STORE HOURS:
9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

MAIL COUPON TODAY:

WEISFIELD'S, INC., 701 Main, Klamath Falls, Oregon
Please send me the 108-Pc. Service for 8 "Selkirk" ensemble as advertised at \$29.95. Enclosed is \$_____ I agree to pay balance at \$_____ a week or \$_____ a month until the entire amount, plus shipping charge, is paid.
NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____
CREDIT REFERENCE _____

Your taste will tell you The extra years enrich its Great Bourbon flavor



Full 6 years old

OLD
HICKORY
STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKY

OLD HICKORY DISTILLING CORPORATION • PHILA. PA.