

# PARATROOPER SURVIVES ORDEAL

## In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS  
For days everybody on the Pacific Coast has been talking about the weather (Dgh!). Let's change the subject and talk for a moment about politics—not who-gets-what-job politics but the big political swings that affect our national economy.

Straw No. 1: Washington dispatches report that the congressional outlook is stormy for the Eisenhower administration's plan to ask five billion dollars for foreign aid — which would be a reversal of our present policy to keep foreign aid gradually shrinking. So far, the proposal has received a chilly welcome from senators of both parties.

Let's take a look at Senator Potter. He enlisted in the army in 1942 as a private, rose to the rank of major, was critically wounded in action in 1945, resulting in the loss of both of his legs. He didn't let that discourage him, and has gone on to live an active and useful life in public service. He is a thoughtful conservative.

Like Senator Potter, I'm inclined to look upon INCREASED foreign aid spending with a jaundiced eye. It is designed to buy good will for us. I wonder if it does. AMERICANS ARE THE MOST PROSPEROUS PEOPLE IN THE WORLD. Very well-to-do people are seldom popular.

Witness:  
"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God." (Matthew XIX 24.)

Straw No. 2: Congressional APPROVAL (the dispatches say) is foreseen for a farm program containing the administration's "soil bank" plan for taking surplus cropland out of production. GOP Representative Clifford Hope of Kansas says: "There will be a farm bill at the coming session of congress, and the soil bank will be an essential part of it."

Democrats, even left-wing Democrats, are speaking with less fervor of returning to guaranteed high price supports for basic crops and are refraining from speaking with severe disapproval of the soil bank plan.

The soil bank plan is beginning to look to BOTH SIDES like a good way out of the farm problem political dilemma.

What of this soil bank business? It's good POLITICS. I doubt if it's good agriculture. About the best that can be said of it is that it is better than the present subsidy system which is building up huge surpluses to hang like a dark thundercloud over the markets of the future.

The West, in particular, needs to study the soil bank proposal carefully. It could result in a big temporary boom in the market for grass seeds, of which the West (and especially the Klamath Basin) is a heavy producer.

Woman Throws Ring In Hat  
AKRON, Ohio (AP)—Usually people just toss coins into Billy Wines' hat, but this Christmas season a pretty young woman threw in a diamond ring.

Wines, 43-year-old polio victim, was sitting in his wheelchair in front of a downtown department store when the woman dropped some coins into his hat. He said he looked down after she passed and saw a diamond ring.

He told the Akron Beacon Journal he hopes the woman can be found so he can return the ring.

### SHOOTING HOURS

OREGON	
December 24	
OPEN	CLOSE
7:04	4:39
December 25	
OPEN	CLOSE
7:04	4:40
CALIFORNIA	
December 24	
OPEN	CLOSE
7:03	4:39
December 25	
OPEN	CLOSE
7:03	4:39

# Herald and News

Price Five Cents—16 Pages KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1955 Telephone 8111 No. 3360

## Pupils Begin Organizing History Data

EUGENE (AP)—The 12-year-olds are becoming historians at one school here.

They have organized a historical society and have started gathering data from old-time residents in the area around their school, Wilson Junior High.

Already 114 seventh graders have become members, and have held their first meeting. Monthly meetings are planned for the future.

Between meetings, the society plans to carry on a research program that will include collecting old photographs of Eugene, interviewing senior citizens to get firsthand information, gathering facts about the history of the district's 20 elementary schools and preparing scrap-books on current history in Eugene.

Mrs. Frederica Coons, a social living teacher at Wilson who has been working with the young historians, said the society's first foray into the neighborhood produced a surprisingly large number of long-time Eugeneans who were happy to tell about the changes that have taken place here.

"Some of the people were a little surprised at first, but they were all helpful," Mrs. Coons said. "The kids got a lot of suggestions about other people they should talk to."

The club started its roundup of old-timers with a door-to-door canvass of several blocks in southwest Eugene. When the students found a resident who had lived here long enough to be interesting, they started asking questions.

Eventually, the names of cooperative subjects will be entered on a roster, and the students will try to wrangle invitations back to their homes for more detailed interviews. The canvassing and interviews are being done by groups of four or five students.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Postmaster General Summerfield said Friday reports from 35 large post offices show Christmas letter mail is running about 6 per cent above last year.

Adding that parcel post volume is up some 2 per cent, Summerfield said the trend is in line with advance department estimates that holiday mail volume will reach an all-time peak this year.

Summerfield declared the department is handling the annual avalanche "more smoothly than ever before, principally because public cooperation in mailing early is better than ever before."

A department statement said "The 1953 and 1954 record of having no Christmas mail stacked up in post offices undelivered on Christmas Day anywhere in America is expected to be repeated this year."



SANTA CAME TO TOWN early to shower gifts on Flora Jean Trowbridge, 2-year-old unwanted child, whose stepfather, Donald Mier, 29-year-old logger, confessed beating and kidnapping her. A few hours after the little girl's plight became known, kind-hearted Klamath Falls residents began showering her with gifts of all kinds at the County Juvenile Home. Her stepfather is under observation at Oregon State Hospital.

## Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity: Occasional rain and snow through Saturday. High Saturday 38; low Friday night 28.

High yesterday 36  
Low last night 33  
Precip. last 24 hours 1.00  
Precip. since Oct. 1 9.74  
Same period last year 1.81  
Normal for period 4.10

## SHOPPING DAY LEFT

Help Fight TB

Buy Christmas Socks

## 'Santa Claus Citizens' Rally Round Flora Jean

By LYLE DOWNING  
Flora Jean Trowbridge, 2-year-old victim of a cruel and inhuman stepfather, could testify Friday that dark clouds do have a silver lining and the true spirit of Christmas dwells in the hearts of Klamath Falls residents.

Flora Jean was taken from a dingy cabin on the outskirts of Klamath Falls Monday by juvenile officers after she had been severely beaten and kicked by her stepfather, Donald Mier, 29-year-old logger.

Shocking testimony at Mier's assault and battery trial was given Tuesday by the girl's mother. She said she didn't want Flora Jean and had no motherly feeling for the child.

Within hours after Flora Jean's plight was made known, kind-hearted citizens went into action. By Thursday night a room she was occupying in the Juvenile Home was transformed into a veritable fairyland. She was showered with all types of clothing, dolls and other playthings.

Mrs. Maude Davis, matron at the home, was deluged with telephone calls from persons wanting to provide Christmas gifts for Flora Jean.

"I have never seen a smarter child for her age," Mrs. Davis declared. "Anyone who would abuse her would have to be crazy."

Friday morning, county juvenile officers Faye Blackmer and Francis Matthews announced that Flora Jean had been taken to Medford by the Boys and Girls Aid Society, a United Fund agency. The organization has scores of requests from persons who want to adopt children.

"There is no doubt but what Flora Jean will find a wonderful home," Mrs. Blackmer said. "Her mother signed away her right to custody of the child. There is no question but what she has a bright future. It's a case of all's well that ends well."

District Attorney Richard Beasley said Friday that Mier, who confessed beating and kidnapping the child on many occasions, will be kept under observation for 30 days at Oregon State Hospital. If he is not mentally deranged, he will then be brought back to Klamath Falls and sentenced by District Judge D. E. Van Vactor.

## Stars Tell Santa Claus Real Desires

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Hollywood's face is as red as Santa's suit today.

That fellow behind the whiskers last night in the lobby of the Four Star Theater wasn't really Santa Claus. It was this hefty reporter who fits Santa's suit without the help of pillows.

The occasion was the premiere of "I'll Cry Tomorrow," the story of singer Lillian Roth and her battle with the bottle.

It was a glittering premiere with most of the big stars in attendance.

None suspected that Santa was something more than a prop for photographers. Else, George Jessel, wouldn't have whispered in Santa's ear: "I want Darryl Zanuck fired so I can get his job."

Jessel is a former Zanuck producer and probably will remain so.

And Joan Bennett, who told Santa: "I'm ready for anything that Santa can give me."

Starlet Judi Jordan, a real doll, was the only one who said she wanted a doll for Christmas.

"I preferably 6 feet 2 with blue eyes," she added.

Paina Elg, the Finnish ballerina under contract to MGM, said she wanted a baby boy.

Bobby Sox idol Russ Tamblyn and his pretty blonde fiancée, model Veneta Stevenson, want house. They're getting married in February.

Dana Andrews wants a Mercedes-Benz, the model that retails for around \$13,000.

Debbie Reynolds clutched Eddie Fisher's hand and said: "You've already delivered my present, Santa." The two recently were wed.

Miss Roth says she wants an Academy Award for Susan Hayward, who portrays her in the picture, and producer Arthur Freed said he wanted "a hit."

Liberace, dressed almost as flashily as Santa, with red bow tie, a ruffled red polka dot evening shirt and red velvet evening slippers, said: "I'm the fellow who has everything. All I ask for is lots of happiness."

## Soldier Makes Way To Isolated Cabin

EASTON, Wash. (AP)—Sgt. John Horan's feet were blistered and swollen. He was weary and cold beyond belief. But there was the road. And an inn. And two men.

They looked up and I knew everything was going to be all right.

And that was the way the 25-year-old paratrooper from Maynard, Mass., described the last moments of the longest four days he ever spent—four days in snow-clad Cascade Mountain foothills into which he plunged on a parachute.

Horan was taken to Madigan General Hospital at Ft. Lewis during the night and doctors were examining him Friday morning to try to determine the extent of injury to his frostbitten feet.

At about 1:30 p.m. last Sunday he jumped from an Air Force C45 on the pilot's orders. The plane had gone into a flat spin at 12,000 feet. Horan bailed out at 10,000 and the plane righted itself before others had to jump.

"I saw a small clearing," he recounted from a cot in a roadside inn 75 miles east of Seattle. "It was covered with deep snow. I landed very good."

He began hiking, sinking to his hips time after time in snow eight feet deep. All night he floundered through the drifts until he spotted a cabin in the woods.

"My legs ached. My feet were numb. And I was hungry."

Inside the cabin he found some matches and started a fire. He found some coconuts, and the only food in the place, and melted snow to make himself a drink. Warm and strengthened, he thought of getting out of the woods — encouraged by the distant roar of trucks winding through the steep Snoqualmie Pass Road.

SNOWSHOES  
He started out on ruddy snowshoes made of shingles and got only 500 feet before his feet and snowshoes gave out. Back to the cabin and a night's sleep.

Tuesday his luck was no better. The distance traveled no greater before his tortured feet gave up and he went back to the cabin.

The third day he knew there could be no turning back. He wrapped his feet in parts of a parachute, cutting his boots so he could get them up. From a refrigerator in the cabin he took two small shelves and fastened them to his feet with parts of his parachute. Then he struck out again.

All afternoon and night he floundered along. An ice cold rain soaked him to the skin.

Today a midday yesterday the truck noises began getting closer and louder.

"Then," he said, "I knew I was going to make it. The rain got worse and I got colder, but my bones were rising."

FOUND MEN  
"I dropped over the rim of the hill and I could hear cars on the highway and people talking."

Around a bend and there were the men and the inn, and by chance a doctor who had stopped to fix some broken tire chains. The inn was 3 1/2 miles south of the cabin in the woods.

## Annual Music Festival Set

The annual Christmas Festival of Music will be presented by the First Presbyterian Church, starting at 11 p.m. on Saturday, December 24. The program will have a full hour of Christmas music, will be under the direction of Andrew Loney Jr. Mrs. Albert Herringshaw will be at the organ.

The Christmas Eve Festival of Music has been a gift to the public in Klamath Falls for a number of years. The service closes each year with Handel's "Alleluia Chorus."

Other numbers to be featured will be by an antiphonal choir including Judy Hadley, Barbara Custer, William Davenport, Robert Davenport and Marvin Nerath Jr., and a special anthem, "The Shepherd's Story," with solos by Mrs. Marvin Nerath, soprano; Elton Geil, tenor, and Don McKenzie, baritone.

Athena Lampropoulos, home for the holidays from the University of Washington, will sing the featured solo of the evening.

The public is invited to attend the service.

## Dimes Drive Funds Given

The March of Dimes advance gifts letters have netted the drive \$904 as of Thursday, announced Jay Kroksh, Klamath County chairman of the drive.

These advance gift letters have been sent out to all the homes in Klamath County to stimulate the collection of funds in the anti-polio campaign. The fund drive will be kicked off on January 2, Kroksh said.

The following firms and individuals have contributed to the advance gifts section of the drive.

The advance donors are: Charles L. Moore, W. W. Thompson, Howard R. Perrin, City Center Lodge, Carrol B. Howe, Ganong and Ganong, Paul Landry, Mabel C. Merz, Klamath Ice and Storage Co., Howard Barnhisel Agency, Klamath Amusement Co., Wyatt Padgett, Gentry Bros., Pine Industrial Relations Committee, Peoples Warehouse, Fluhrer's Bakery, Dr. Raymond Tice, F. L. Weaver, F. J. Adams, K. M. Moly, Dr. E. Dietsche, Mrs. Marshall E. Cornett, Sears, Roebuck and Co., Dr. James H. Noel.

W. J. Owsley, Louie's Food Store, Chilcote and Smith, Ralph Hill, Dr. Fred R. Krauel, Swan Lake Moulding Co., Charles J. Martin, Dr. Dean H. Osborn, Oregon Water Corp., Klamath Lumber and Box Co., and G. C. Lorenz.

HOMES OPEN  
SAN ANGELO, Tex. (AP)—Members of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club will open their homes and radio sets tonight so children can talk to Santa Claus and maybe get in a last-minute request or two.

Rev. Marshall McKinnie is pastor of the church.

## Teen Polio Drive Planned

Jay Kroksh, Klamath County chairman of the 1956 March of Dimes drive announced Friday that the "Teens Against Polio" drive will be staged by the students of all the high schools of the county this year.

Charles Carlson, principal of Klamath Union High School and Carrol B. Howe, superintendent of the Klamath County school system, have both given their consent for the drives to be held in the schools under their jurisdiction.

Sharon Lander, Roseburg High School is the state Teens Against Polio chairman. Roseburg leads the nation in high participation in the March of Dimes, and Oregon as a whole is one of the top states, said Kroksh.

Rev. Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction, has sent letters to all the high school principals of the state outlining the Teens Against Polio program and telling the principals that this drive is one that merits their interest and cooperation.

## Choral Service To Be Held

The annual candlelight and choral service of the Congregational Church, 234 Garden Avenue, will be presented at 11 p.m. Christmas Eve.

Choir director, is Mrs. Elita Rolee. Dorothy McKinnie is organist. Special music by the choir will be "Gesu Bambino," by Papietto. Yon with baritone solos by Glenn Lewis and Forrest Hawley. Forrest will also sing "The Lord's Prayer" by Malotte.

Naomi Parker will sing "Sweet Lil' Jesus Boy." Mrs. Elita Rolee will solo "Ava Maria," by Schubert. "Gesu Bambino," will be repeated by the choir.

An organ prelude, "Yuletide Echoes," Hodson will be played. The postlude will be the "Hallelujah Chorus" by Handel.

The Rev. Marshall McKinnie is pastor of the church.

## Students Aid Team Member

DUNSMUIR—The classmates of Tony Welch assembled a huge Christmas stocking this week to assure Tony of their best wishes for Christmas. Tony, a senior at Dunsmuir High School, was injured in football scrimmage during a practice game with Enterprise early in September. He has been hospitalized since then.

A collection of small gifts was started by the senior class at the high school and the stocking was kept at the home of Gail Yousey this week for last minute shoppers. A delegation of students planned to motor to the McCloud Hospital on Thursday to give Tony his stocking.

Tony is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Welch of Dunsmuir. For six weeks following his injury he received treatment in San Francisco. Since then he has been in the McCloud Hospital. For awhile complete paralysis was feared but Tony has regained the use of his upper body and has some feeling in his legs. His condition is still so serious that doctors are not predicting a complete recovery.

## Sport Fishing Hearing Set

Oregon sport fishing regulations for 1956 will be tentatively set following a public hearing on Friday January 13, in the same commission's Portland office, 1634 S. W. Alder.

The public hearing will begin at 10 a.m., and winter and summer angling rules for all game fish will be covered.

Following a two-week interval, a second hearing will be called by the commission on January 27 to set the final regulations for the 1956 season.

All persons interested are cordially invited to attend.

## AA Schedules Annual Party

One of the big events planned in Klamath Falls for New Year's Eve will be the Alcoholic Anonymous year-end party at the AA Center, 120 Riverside on December 31.

It will probably be one of the few New Year social functions in Klamath Falls in which John Barleycorn will not play a role.

A buffet, supper, dancing and other entertainments will be preceded by an open meeting at which the Rev. Glenn Ostrod, pastor of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and Dr. Raymond Tice, Klamath Falls surgeon, will be guest speakers. Sheriff Murray Britton will be a special guest.

The meeting is scheduled for 8:30 p.m.

DAN MATHIS, 3849 Bisbee Avenue, serviceman for the Oregon Water Corp., was shoveling the snow off the sidewalk this morning when the 9 o'clock photographer snapped him.



THE WINNING CHRISTMAS LIGHTING scene is this one built by Felix Peace, 2331 Garden Street. The contest, staged by the Klamath County Junior Chamber of Commerce, was open to all the residents of Klamath Falls. Peace won a gold trophy (which is presented to the grand prize winner each year by the California Oregon Power Co.) and \$25 also given by Coppco. A gold plaque was presented to Peace by the Jaycees. Peace won both the lawn scene division award and the grand prize in the contest.