

The Herald and News

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Mr. Circus

By FLOYD L. WYNNE

I found out yesterday what happens to city editors... well, some city editors, anyway.

One city editor in question forsook the newspaper world for the world of the three ring circus back in 1934. He was city editor for a Peoria, Illinois, newspaper and had been in the newspaper world for a number of years, when he succumbed to the lure of the circus world.

That former city editor is the man that to Klamath Falls people, anyway, has become Mr. Shrine Circus, namely Justus Edwards.

I had become certain that once you were inculcated with the printer's ink needle, you never got away from it, but Justus proved to me that the odor of sawdust had more attraction than printer's ink.

"I've always been circus-simple," he explained to me.

And after almost 17 years in newspaper work, he traded for the circus.

Here as justice man for the Shrine Circus, Justus knows more about circuses today than almost anyone in the field.

He recalls his years with an earlier circus, interrupted by the war, during which he served on the staff of the Army magazine "Yank," followed by the last 13 years with the Polack Brothers Circus.

Last year was the first of the 11 years the circus has been presented here, that Justus was not with it.

Asked where he was, he explained that he took a 14-week leave of absence to make a trip to Europe.

"See any circuses during your trip?" I asked him.

"Well," he replied, "I was only there 14 weeks, but I managed to see all the cathedrals, art museums, ruins and monuments that all tourists see, I even took in some operas, ballets and other performances, and managed to travel in 12 countries."

"I know," I continued, "but how about circuses?"

"I told you I was circus-simple," he said. "I visited 36 different circuses during that 14 weeks."

He explained that it was difficult finding out where they were, but he managed to locate them and sandwich a trip to them in with his loaded schedule.

Talking about the differences between circus on the continent and circus life here, he commented that the children were much better behaved on the continent than over here.

This, he speculated, was attributed to the fact that television is not common in Europe, and youngsters don't have as many toys or as much amusement as here, consequently when they go to the circus, they're all wrapped up in it. "Might also have something to do with how they're handled by their parents," he added.

One big difference, he said, was that out of the 36 circuses he visited, 29 are under tent. "There are only a few tents circuses left in this country," he added.

One reason for this, he thought, was the cost of labor for erecting and taking down the big top as well as the transportation problem.

"They have a lot of railroad circuses, too," he pointed out, "while I don't know of any more railroad circuses in this country. They've all gone motorized over here."

He also reported that to his knowledge there were many circuses operating inside Russia and in the satellite countries. "One of the best shows I've seen," he said, "was the Russian circus at Brussels. I went back to see that one again," he recalled.

Another big difference in type of circus handling, he said, is that in Europe there is no vending, no selling during the performance. Over here, he said, they expect it. "One time there was a vendors dispute and for a few days there was no selling in the stands. We had one columnist criticize us. He said it just wasn't a circus without the vendors."

The Polack Brothers Circus is sponsored by the Shrine in all but California, he pointed out. "Some dispute down there at the top level has withdrawn the Shrine from the picture," he said. "However, their California appearances were sponsored by the Elks," he continued. "What is one of the most impressive acts you've seen during your years and experience with circuses?" I asked him.

He admitted it was pretty difficult to single out any one act, but finally settled on Rose Gold, the trapeze star who appeared with last year's circus here.

"I don't think people fully appreciated her act," he commented. "I think it was one of the greatest."

His activity with the Shrine Circus takes him to all parts of the United States and part of Canada for 11 months out of the year.

During his one month's respite from the circus, Edwards takes a vacation. Where to?

"Well, to Mexico for one place," he replied, "I like that."

"What do you do on your vacation?" I asked.

"Well, there's an excellent circus in Mexico City. . . ."

"After all," he explained, "I told you I was circus-simple."

The Red Badge Of Courage

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Editor Roseburg News-Review

It is regrettable that there aren't words in our language to convey our full measure of praise for the people of Roseburg and all the individuals and organizations connected with Friday's awful tragedy.

If medals for bravery were to be issued, I believe one such medal should be struck off for the courage of Roseburg's residents. The fire and blast caused one of Oregon's worst tragedies. It affected the whole city area. Few homes escaped some sort of damage. Yet there was little hysteria. People generally turned out with a will to help. In a number of cases, we learned, men and women volunteered for service without even checking damage in their own homes.

People normally look somewhat askance at the boys with horseshoe jackets and ornaments indicating membership in a motorcycle club. Motorcycleists, it would seem, are interested only in racing, squirreling and generally making themselves a nuisance.

People would have changed their opinions quickly, however, had they observed the Bumble Bees in action. The Bumble Bees are members of a local motorcycle club. Under organization, they worked as couriers, patrolmen and in other essential jobs. They performed a most valuable service to the community.

The response of Oregon's National Guard to Roseburg's needs was immediate and efficient. Within moments after Friday morning's tragedy, Roseburg guardsmen were reporting into the armory. They quickly took over the job of patrol work in the devastated area. Because of the quick presence of armed and uniformed men, there was virtually no looting in the dark but rubble-strewn area where thievery would have been easy had a guard not been maintained.

As the extent of the disaster became evident, guardsmen came in from Grants Pass and Cottage Grove. The guard detail quickly passed from the city police to the National Guard. No one was allowed into the disaster area without a pass. Strict controls kept people out of the damaged section at night.

Had the Army been like it was at the armory while National Guard units were stationed there, I might still be a grizzled warrior. When I served in the Army in the First World War kitchen police was one of the dreaded details.

But at the Roseburg armory the KP detail over the weekend was handled by wives and girl friends of guardsmen. The mess hall presented a very attractive appearance. Soldiers didn't have to wash dirty messkits in lukewarm water the consistency of soup.

One thing I can say for the Army, it ain't like it used to be. Books could be written about Roseburg firemen who stood firm while flames raced toward gas tanks, even though the body of their assistant chief lay only a comparatively few feet away. It could be told how they worked to exhaustion, how they set up lines where they would not permit the

fire to pass and held the blaze to the stricken area.

Other books could be written of the bravery of state, county and city police agencies and their volunteer aides.

In fact, as was said earlier, there just aren't words to tell of all the bravery, to give credit where credit should be given and to praise the extremely efficient way in which order was restored out of Friday's confusion.

Nor can there be enough praise for the neighboring towns who sent in fire trucks and fire fighters, nurses, blood, plasma, drugs, first aid trucks, mercy planes: nor to the Red Cross, Salvation Army and all the rest. The utilities, working around the clock to restore their respective services, frequently with crews from neighboring towns, deserve a big hand.

Obviously credit can't be given all. But, looking at the whole event, Roseburg people have a right to be both proud and grateful.

Philippines
By ARNOLD DIBBLE
TOKYO (UPI) — The Philippines is the only country in Asia built in the American image. Today many, if not most, Filipinos are hurt, baffled and angry over attacks at the hands of the Americans who brought them into the modern world.

The most popular parlor game among the many Americans who travel in Asia is attacking graft, corruption and indolence in the Philippines. Prominent experts deplore the sad state of these lush islands and magazines and newspapers find themselves denounced for their statements and dispatches on the Philippines.

Without minimizing the faults of the Philippines, most "experts" on the nation forget, or underplay, one most important factor: The Philippines is the most truly free nation in Asia.

The press is so free that many newspapermen themselves think some of the stories in the newspapers (always the opposition newspaper, of course) go too far. Politicians' private lives make for some lurid reading, for example. Freedom of speech is so unbridled that political campaigns in the Philippines make a good, old-fashioned American name-calling contest appear like an Elk's club testimonial night.

With these freedoms, also go freedom to graft. And grafters there appear to be a plenty in the Philippines. (A recent visitor to Tokyo showed a letter from a customs official who was brazen enough to spell out exactly what he wanted to clear some goods through the pier.)

During the past 18 months, Asia has seen Pakistan, Burma, Thailand and Indonesia take steps toward totalitarianism or authoritarianism. South Viet Nam, the Republic of China, and Korea—all supported by the U.S.—have "strongman" governments.

In that time, there has been scarcely a whisper of any such thing in the Philippines although earlier this year there were reports of a military plot against President Carlos Garcia. The "plot" came to nothing.

The Philippines is rare in Asia in that it has plenty of land for its population—in fact, it has been estimated that it could accommodate at least twice its population with no trouble.

The Filipinos were America's staunchest ally during World War II; and despite the fact they don't think they have gotten a fair shake of foreign aid (a debatable point), they probably are today. Certainly you hear no anti-nuclear talk in the Philippines; President Garcia has welcomed the latest weapons into his country.

What particularly bothers Americans is, of course, that their "baby" is a little less than

perfect. But when you take over all stock of the progeny of colonialism in Asia, the American "baby" perhaps doesn't come off too badly.

At least it can wall as loud as it likes.

Vets Mail Bag

A special dividend of four million dollars will be paid this year to 83,000 National Service Life Insurance policyholders who carried the \$5 total disability income provision, the Veterans Administration announced.

This provision provides the insured veterans a monthly income of \$5 per month for each \$1,000 of insurance in force in the event he becomes totally disabled, and costs him an additional premium.

Payments will start at once. Eligible to receive the dividend are those veterans whose TDIP rider was in force on December 31, 1958. The amount of the dividend will depend on the age group, plan and number of months the insurance was in force, the VA explained.

Policyholders whose insurance was in a state of lapse during December, 1958, will receive this dividend only if their policies were reinstated before June 1, 1959.

Because their group has not accumulated any surplus, those who were issued TDIP riders prior to January 1, 1950, by virtue of waiver of good health requirements due to service-incurred disability, will not participate in this special dividend.

VA officials pointed out that there are more than five million veterans eligible to apply for disability insurance benefits. Although they cannot share in the present dividend they may obtain information and rate schedules for this type of coverage from any VA office.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:
Q—I have a GI home loan I have been paying on for a year. I just heard that the maximum allowable GI interest rate has gone up. Does this mean I have to pay my lender more?

A—It definitely does not. Loans closed before July 2 are in no way affected by the new rate. Only loans made on or after that date can be charged the new 5 1/4 per cent rate.

The Almanac

United Press International
Today is Wednesday, Aug. 12 the 224th day of the year, with 141 more days in 1959.

The moon is approaching its full phase.

The morning star is Mercury. The evening stars are Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and Venus.

On this date in history:
In 1658, a "Rattle Watch" of eight men was established in the colony of New Amsterdam, the first police force in America.

In 1851, Isaac Singer was granted a patent on his sewing machine and began his business in Boston with a capital of \$40.

In 1877, Thomas Edison worked out the principle of the "talking machine" and turned over a crude model of the phonograph to be manufactured for demonstration.

In 1896, the peace protocol ending the Spanish-American War was signed after hostilities with Spain that lasted less than four months and resulted in the annexation of Hawaii to the U.S.

In 1947, a violent controversy in the U.S. erupted over the "new look" for women, which featured unusually full dresses reaching nearly to the ankles.

Thought for today: Thomas Edison said: "Genius is one per cent inspiration and ninety-nine per cent perspiration."

Quotes
United Press International
LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Gov. Orval Faubus, denouncing integration plans on the eve of integration at two Little Rock high schools, but advising against violence:

"To all of you who love Christ, who love freedom and who love your children, I see nothing to be gained tomorrow by disorder and violence."

CHICAGO — Msgr. Joseph Cullen, charging that an arsonist set the Our Lady of Angels school fire last Dec. 1 that killed 92 children and three nuns:

"There's no doubt in my mind that somebody set that fire. There's some nut loose."

DES MOINES, Iowa — Four-year-old Billy Curtis, speaking from a hospital bed after he had been dug out of a sewer ditch cave-in where he had been buried for 40 minutes:

"It sure was dark in that dirt."

TODAY'S 2-MINUTE MYSTERY

THE SCREAMING CAT

By Donald J. Sobol

"One of your neighbors reported hearing a scream from this house about ten minutes ago," Inspector Winter said. "I'm sorry to intrude, but we happened to be driving nearby, and I thought I'd check on the report myself."

James McNulty stood scowling in the doorway—till he saw the inspector's badge. "There's some mistake," he protested. "B-but come in."

The inspector and Dr. Haledjian left the rain, which had been falling for three hours, and entered the bright and cheerful little house.

"I'll bet Mrs. Hatfield reported the scream," said McNulty. "She lives next door with her cats. I found a gray one camped at my door when I came home ten minutes ago."

"I was tired and wet and impatient," continued McNulty. "The cat didn't move, so I kicked it—harder than I intended. It let out a yowl. A yowl, inspector. Not a scream."

"Is that your station wagon in the back?" inquired Haledjian. "Yes, I've been away selling two weeks," said McNulty.

Haledjian peered through the window at the station wagon a moment and suddenly went outside.

"Here, pussy," he murmured gently at the gray cat cowering under the station wagon. He moved one hand along the dry gravel beneath the car and then with a lightning motion seized the cat. Carrying it back into the house, he asked McNulty, "Do you

live here alone?"

"With my wife, Mae," was the nervous reply.

"For your sake, I hope she's well," said Haledjian. "If there was a scream, I don't think the cat made it."

What aroused Haledjian's suspicion?

"The cat didn't move—so I kicked it."

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REDS INTERCEPT SAMPANS

HONG KONG (UPI) — A Communist Chinese gunboat Monday fired on four sampans loaded with Chinese fleeing to the Portuguese island of Macao and captured three of them, it was reported today. One boat with eight Chinese aboard made it safely to Macao harbor, just off the Chinese mainland. The other three were towed back to Lappa, the Communist commune on the river opposite Macao.

The Gilbert and Sullivan opera, "The Mikado," was first performed in London in 1885.

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LEFT: CARIBBEAN

Submarine Flower Show features delicate marine plant life unperturbed by an occasional saucy fish flitting by. This scagging 2-color print is available in towel-matching turquoise, green, blue, pink, yellow, white and champagne. 72" wide and seamless.

RIGHT: BUENA VISTA

Feather-light puffs of color serenely soar over frosty-clear backgrounds, relieved by floating flecks that could well be confetti. This delightful 3-color print features choice of turquoise, rose, maize, green, blue, white-and-gold or champagne. 72" wide and seamless.

Not Shown: JEWEL