

# The Herald and News

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## Realistic Speeds

By FLOYD L. WYNNE  
Many motorists who disputed . . . unsuccessfully . . . that they were only going 25 miles per hour while passing over the viaduct on South Sixth Street can now feel vindicated to some extent.  
Very shortly the signs will be changed, and the speed limit from the west side of the overpass on out South Sixth to the city limits will be 35 miles per hour.  
This seems like a realistic speed inasmuch as the highway is wide and divided and is designed for a smooth fast flow of traffic.  
However, it took some doing to get it changed from 25 to 35 miles per hour.

## CONTROL OF SPEED on highways that lie within the limits of an incorporated city rests with the State Speed Control Board.

The city cannot change the speed limits on such highways.  
Recently, Mayor Lawrence Slater was appointed to fill a vacancy that existed on this board. I don't know whether his appointment was coincidental to action by the board on the overpass speed, or if the issue had simply been neglected because the board had not met.  
At any rate, the change has been approved, and the signs will be changed shortly.

A word of caution, though . . . wait until the sign is changed before pushing it up to 35 going over the overpass.

## WHILE WE'RE on the subject of speed, it is important to point out another action by the State Speed Control Board.

They have approved limiting speed on the newly completed west side bypass to 35 miles per hour, have authorized a sign warning of the downgrade at the Main Street end, and have limited speed to 25 miles per hour from a point 350 feet west of Main Street to the bypass intersection with Main Street.

This should be a big help to traffic on the bypass.

## IN THIS DAY OF SPEED it is certainly necessary to restrict that speed to a safe level.

At the same time, there is also an urgent necessity to move traffic as quickly as can be safely done.

These are two good moves in the right direction toward realistic speed restrictions.

## Gifts

By FLORENCE JENKINS  
Patients at Fairview Hospital will be included when gifts are sent this year from Klamath Falls to patients in state hospitals for the mentally ill.

Apparently confusion has resulted from correspondence sent from the Portland office of Dr. Frank Strange, executive director of the Mental Health Association of Oregon.

In the association's plea for voluntary gifts from individuals, no mention is made of the Fairview home. Mention is made of the 6,000 patients in the state's two hospitals and that is all. As a result of the omission, Mrs. Hagan A. Moore, voluntary chairman here for collection of gifts, has written to Dr. Strange asking for an explanation. Two weeks have elapsed without a reply.

Fairview has upwards of 3,000 patients this year.

Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Eric Majors announce they will see to it, personally, that there are gifts from Klamath Falls to patients at Fairview.

For some time, Klamath County had led the counties in the state in sending gifts to those who must spend the holiday season in the state hospitals. Gifts may be practically anything except razors, scissors and knives. Particularly wanted are playing cards, games, cosmetics and grooming aids for both men and women, articles of wearing apparel, yarn and crochet thread and lengths of material for sewing, tobacco, cake and cookie mixes, candy, etc.

Gifts should not be wrapped but holiday wrapping material and ribbons are very welcome additions.

They may be taken to Mrs. Moore's home at 324 South Fifth Street or arrangements may be made by telephoning her for pick-up.

Civic, service, social and church organizations are asked to notify their members.

"Gifts marked for Fairview will be delivered there," Mrs. Moore declared, "if we have to drive up there with them ourselves."

## Off Beat Notes

By TOM STIMMEL  
Ross Ragland of Klamath Falls and Storage had a Christmas card idea both different and appealing. He mailed to out-of-town friends,

and some friends here, 50 copies of Don Kettler's dramatic color photograph of yellow sage along Upper Klamath Lake.

The photo, prepared by engravers Ernie Hedlund and Jack Metz, was wonderfully received when it appeared on a front page early in November. Ragland mounted his clippings on red and yellow poster paper.

Portland people down here for last week's welfare committee hearing found Klamath County both different and revolutionary. Upstate, they said, the slogan is, "Oregon has 35 counties — and Klamath."

California, like Texas, once was a republic, independent from everybody. Mrs. Lula McKenzie, an elderly lady buried last Saturday at Red Bluff, was a granddaughter of the California Republic's only president, Gen. William B. Ide.

Mrs. McKenzie was an aunt of Mrs. Dale Mattoon, wife of a veteran deputy sheriff here.

## An economic note of interest:

A women's organization held a rummage sale to benefit the community hospital survey fund. Some way or another, the ladies lost money. They recouped by donating \$25 from the club treasury.

## Mixed Up Giant

By JAMES MARLOW  
Associated Press News Analyst  
WASHINGTON (AP) — John L. Lewis was a mixed-up giant.

He was a monument in American labor. But there were times when he acted like a man two inches high. He had enormous successes, abysmal failure. He was hated and he was loved.

He was a liberal and a conservative and a colossal egotist who had to be humbled in public. He was a great actor and a great man. He could make the English language eloquent, and very corny too.

He was in the main stream of history, as the leader of labor in the 1930s, but there were times when he swam against it. For instance, in 1940 when the country was preparing for war and he turned isolationist.

He was a torrent of restlessness who has settled, as he nears 80, into tranquility. No one ever fought American businessmen harder. But he wasn't against them. He was a free enterpriser, too. He just wanted more of their profits.

He had daring, courage, imagination when lesser men around him quaked with timidity. Yet, if he couldn't have things his own way, he wouldn't play.

He started as a boy in the mines, to become one of the moving forces in labor. Still, under his leadership his coal miners' union was a dismal mess before it became a huge success.

The crowning contradiction of his life came Tuesday when—after announcing he would retire next month from the presidency of his union—the coal operators expressed their deep, sincere regret.

No group ever had a more wretched record of mistreatment of labor than the coal barons. But in the end Lewis made them see the light with a result unbelievable 20 years ago.

His miners are on the top rung of labor, in wages and benefits, and relations between Lewis and the operators are now so well adjusted there hasn't been a big strike in years.

Lewis had his bad days. When he became head of the miners at the end of World War I, there were 400,000 in the union. The number dwindled so badly in the 1920s that by 1933 they were down to 150,000.

At times Lewis seemed carried away by his own strength. He pitted it against the government

more than once. President Wilson forced him on an injunction to stop a strike he called in 1919 before World War I was officially over.

He struck again in World War II. But he suffered his greatest humiliation in 1946. He defied a court order against a strike and for this he was fined \$10,000 and his union 3½ million dollars.

With the help of his eyebrows, which he could raise and lower like a stage curtain, Lewis could look thunderous with an anger which he could turn on and off like summer rain.

A conservative Republican, Lewis supported Calvin Coolidge in 1924. Herbert Hoover against Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932. But he switched to Roosevelt when the New Deal, through the NRA and the Wagner Act, gave labor its greatest break and biggest government help in history.

He became a liberal among liberals in 1936 when, in gratitude, he backed Roosevelt. But he turned conservative again in 1940 when Roosevelt refused to coddle him. Lewis came out for Wendell Willkie.

This was when he made his greatest mistake in self-evaluation. He threatened to quit as head of the CIO if Roosevelt won. His reasoning was that the President couldn't be reelected without labor's help.

This was like saying a Roosevelt victory would be a repudiation of Lewis. He matched his popularity against the President's. Roosevelt won and Lewis quit.

When the New Deal came to the help of labor, Lewis saw the chance to organize the millions of unorganized industrial workers. The AFL, selfishly interested only in craft unions, wouldn't buy Lewis' plea for industrial organization. He quit the AFL and formed the CIO.

The drive that followed, and its success, was the greatest in American labor. But when Lewis quit the CIO after the 1940 election, he went into a kind of backwater of labor history.

He remained as head of the miners. He was still a driving force. But he was no longer leader of the broad labor movement.

He was one of those extraordinary men who, in every generation, rises to shape the destiny and direction of the nation.

## Casual Love

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—Can you remember your first grammar school love affair?

Did you keep it a secret from prying outsiders? When it blew up, did it leave you desperate and soul-scarred for life?

Well, if it was that way then, it isn't that way now. Love is pretty casual today in the younger set.

At least it is on our apartment house floor. My daughter, Tracy Ann, who is 6 and in the first grade, has fallen in love with an older fellow who lives down the hall.

His name is Mark. He is tall (half an inch taller than my daughter), blond and handsome. He is 7 years old, growing on 8, and is in the second grade.

Mark is terribly fond of Tracy. He would rather stay indoors and draw pictures with her than go out roller skating with the boys. But he is quite content merely to be near Tracy. He isn't interested in shouldering any further responsibilities. He wants things to drift along as they are.

This doesn't suit Tracy at all. Like any girl after a carefree bachelor, she wants to nail him down for keeps—right now.

The other day Tracy, whose other interest in life is learning to read and write, had been silent for a long time.

"What are you up to now?"

asked her.

"I'm writing a love letter," she said.

"A what?"

"A love letter. It's my very first one."

"Who's it to?"

"To Mark. Do you want me to read it to you?"

"I am all ears."

Tracy cleared her throat and chanted aloud in her best first grade English:

"I love. I kiss. I will love, I will kiss. I will love you forever and ever and ever."

She held up the letter which was brilliant in half a dozen crayon colors.

"It's a beautiful letter," I told her. "The meaning is absolutely clear."

Half an hour later Mark came visiting. Tracy immediately cornered him and chanted the contents of her letter to him.

"Uh huh," said Mark.

"We will get married," announced Tracy firmly, "and we will have five children."

There was a long silence.

"U-m-m-m-m-m," said Mark.

"Say, Tracy where are the crayons? Let's draw some pictures."

Tracy carefully tossed her love letter on the floor and got out her box of crayons. Five minutes later both were busy drawing, and quarreling happily over the crayons as if they had been wed 40 years.

I also felt rather sorry for Mark. I knew he wouldn't always get away so quickly and easily. The eternal world of woman is already beginning to close in on him, and he doesn't even know it.

## Vets Mail Bag

Benefit checks from the Veterans Administration may be sent directly to the beneficiary's bank for deposit to his account, the VA said recently, provided the bank has been given the required power of attorney.

A special U.S. Treasury form is available for the purpose of assigning the power of attorney to the beneficiary's bank.

This arrangement is convenient for veterans who travel and those who have frequent changes of address which make it difficult for them to receive their checks with regularity, the VA pointed out.

A complete explanation of the arrangement and the necessary forms may be obtained by contacting any VA office.

Contrary to former legal requirements that a check could not be forwarded to a beneficiary who has moved, checks in payment of monetary benefits may now be forwarded, provided the addressee has left a forwarding address with the post office, the VA said.

Question of the week: Q — I'm a Korea veteran, at school part time under the GI Bill. What is the deadline for finishing training?

A — Your deadline is eight years from the date of your discharge. But no GI training may be taken after January 31, 1955.

## The Almanac

By United Press International  
Today is Wednesday, Dec. 16, the 350th day of the year, with 35 more days in 1959.

The moon is approaching its last quarter.

The morning stars are Mercury and Venus.

On this day in history:

In 1770, German composer Ludwig Van Beethoven was born.

In 1773, the Boston Tea Party was held.

In 1775, English novelist Jane Austen was born.

In 1835, a fire in New York City destroyed 674 buildings and caused damage estimated at 20 million dollars.

In 1905, the show biz bible, Variety, was published for the first time.

In 1944, the Battle of the Bulge began as German forces in Belgium launched a great counter offensive in World War II.

Quotes

SAN QUENTIN, Calif. (UPI) — Convict-author Caryl Chessman, vowing to keep up his 11 1/2 year fight against execution despite the U. S. Supreme Court's refusal to hear his latest appeal:

"I guess we will make the rounds again, unless I feel I've had it yet. . . . This is the merry-go-round again."

AMHERST, Mass. — Pianist Steven Lacy, of New York, forfeiting \$25 bond on a malicious damage charge but explaining in a letter to Amherst police why he hit the keys of a nightclub piano so hard they shattered:

"It's a crime to expect a professional musician to play on it. It's three half-steps out of tune."

## They'll Do It Every Time

DINHOOEY, THE MAGICO, CAN DO MIRACLES WITH RABBITS, DUCKS, GEESE AND DISAPPEARING ELEPHANTS . . .



## By Jimmy Hatlo

BUT GET A PEEK AT HIM TRYING TO HANDLE A PARAKEET ON HIS HOME GROUNDS . . .



## Ex-Executive Of Paper Firm Views Reds

PORTLAND (AP) — The Russians claim they can harvest 160 to 170 billion board feet of lumber per year, a retired Crown-Zellerbach Corp. executive told a Kiwanis Club meeting here Tuesday.

"If they can do that in their climate and soil we should be able to do much better than we ever thought," Edward P. Stamm said. He toured Russian timber resources last year.

Northern Russian forests, he said, have a growth rate of one-fifth to one-fourth cord per acre per year. The rate is about one-half cord on the average in the United States and three-fourths cord on the West Coast, he added.

Russian forest growth, he said, is hampered by permafrost zones where the growing season is short and erosion is heavy.

It will take the Russians several decades of intense effort and great expense, he said, to improve forest output. And the United States, he said, can hold its own in timber production if it will pay the price.

Russia, he said, would have to make a major shift in population

to utilize the timber because 55 per cent of it is in Siberia and only 15 is in Europe. The opposite is true of the population.

The Russians, he said, must first expand rail lines, build housing and spur lines and provide railroad cars, engines and logging equipment.

The alternative is to go by sea through the Arctic Ocean, which would mean keeping open a channel through the ice and building port facilities.

Russian pulp and paper mills, Stamm said, compare quite favorably with U.S. mills. But, he added, plywood and sawmills are not on a par with U.S., Canadian and Scandinavian mills.

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## FIRE KILLS FOUR

COLUMBUS, Miss. (UPI)—Four Negro children, left alone in their home by their mother, were fatally burned Tuesday when fire destroyed the house.

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