

Medal Of Honor Winners Complimented At Reception In White House Garden

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Kennedy called them "our most distinguished American citizens." Standing in the White House rose garden, forming a semi-circle of massive human courage, the Medal of Honor winners seemed pleased at the compliment.

A total of 235 of them are still alive, and 234 were present at the annual reception given by the President Thursday to honor U.S. military forces.

"There are more square yards of courage here than you'll ever again see in your lifetime," someone said.

Many of them were just ordinary appearing souls like the man next door, who rose to heights of unbelievable valor in moments of incredible strain. They had come to Washington to be honored by the President.

Proud Of All

"So, gentlemen," Kennedy said, "we are delighted to have you here today, and we are very proud of you and, most of all, we are proud of what you represent which is the strong courage of Americans and their determination to defend their country."

One of the "you" was James Dozier, a retired lieutenant general who lives in Columbus, S.C. He won the coveted medal during World War I.

Young and old, some very old, they wandered around the south lawn of the White House, pausing now and then to gaze up to the second floor balcony where Caroline and John F. Kennedy Jr. watched the proceedings. They met old friends and recounted old tales.

Old Battleship Mates

"Well," said Abraham DeSomer to Henry N. Nickerson "did you talk to the man who pays your checks?" Nickerson, with his left leg missing, nodded an assent since Kennedy had passed his way while strolling through the crowd.

DeSomer, of San Leandro, Calif., and Nickerson of Wheeling, W. Va., both won their medals in April, 1914, while serving on the battleship Utah which was shelling the Mexicans at Vera Cruz.

Most of those present were heroes of World War II and the Korean War. Many of these still are in uniform.

Unified Library Plan Seen Bettering Service

In view of a number of letters received by the governor on the subject of the proposed merger of the Klamath Falls and Klamath County libraries, the Klamath County Library Board has issued a statement reaffirming its position that the purpose of the unification "would be to provide more library service, not less."

The proposed merger has been the subject of a study by the city and county library boards which is still continuing, a board member told the Herald and News Friday.

The policy statement, issued by Ted DeMerritt, chairman of the Klamath County Library Board, states, "Some concern has been expressed to members of the library board and to other public officials that the proposed unification of the city and county libraries would have an adverse effect on the branch libraries, as the ones in Chiloquin, Bonanza, and in other communities."

"At their last meeting, the Klamath County Library Board moved to reaffirm their stand that the purpose of unification would be to provide more library service, not less."

"It is the intent of the county library board to strengthen and support the branch libraries in every way possible," DeMerritt concluded.

Switch Causes Freight Derail

LA GRANDE (UPI) — Seven cars of a 90-car Union Pacific freight train went off the tracks one-half mile east of here Thursday, closing the main east-west line between Portland and Chicago for seven hours.

The track was cleared about 9 p.m.

A Union Pacific spokesman said cause of the derailment might have been a faulty mechanical switch. The cars which went off were near the middle of the train.

Stray Cat Bill Signed By Mark

SALEM (UPI) — A bill authorizing counties to set up programs for control of stray cats was signed into law Thursday by Gov. Mark Hatfield.

The bill contains a clause requiring cats to be held and cared for for 10 days in case owners are looking for them.

The measure was supported chiefly by legislators from Jackson County, who said stray cats have become a serious problem.

The bill was the subject of considerable kidding before the legislature passed it.

Barbershop Parade Set

The program for the 15th annual Parade of Barbershop Quartets and Choruses to be presented Saturday night at Mills School Auditorium by the Klamath Falls Chapter SPEBSQSA will bring some of the best barbershop talent on the West Coast to Klamath Falls.

"Hub" Stone, who has seen quartets sing and choruses perform in Klamath Falls since the parade of barbershop vocalists first came to this part of Oregon, believes this year's program outlines those of any previous years.

Tickets are still on sale for good seats at Derby's Music Store, from members of the chorus and they will be available at the door.

Doors will be open at 7 p.m. and the curtain goes up at 8.

The program follows: The Klamath Falls SPEBSQSA chorus, directed by Everett Ball and Bill Evans; Bill Houston, Spokane, in comedy skits; House Brothers of Sacramento, Dan, Dave, Bill and Tom; Krater, Lords of Klamath Falls; Bill Evans, Vernon Durant, Lyle Smith and Jim Perkins; Merry-men of Portland, Dr. Al Witt, Ed Thomas, Dr. Bob Mercer and Dr. Robert Day.

Intermission, community singing: Sweet Adelines Chorus of Klamath Falls, directed by Betty Perkins; Capitol Chordmen, Salem, Dick Roth, Lloyd Griffiths, Mel Beddard, Al Smith; Harmony Swells, Spokane, Bill Houston, Ed Jeffers, Al Parker, Herb Gusscott; Journeymen of Eugene, Dennis Stiers, Alan Koberstein, Terry Shannon, Curtis Roth; grand finale, SPEBSQSA Chorus and Sweet Adelines.

Work Rule Hopes Rise

NEW YORK (UPI) — Judge Samuel I. Rosenman, chairman of the presidential emergency board investigating new railroad work rules, hopes to have the major hurdles to agreement in the featherbedding battle cleared by next week.

Rosenman met Thursday in a joint session with railroad representatives and the five operating brotherhoods, and separately with the labor leaders.

He said there was "some movement on one of the toughest issues" involved in the investigation—what to do about firemen on diesel engines.

The Brotherhood of Firemen contend that firemen should be kept on the train crew as a safety factor.

"I still hope to get agreement on the major issues by next week," Rosenman said. But he stressed that he is not sure the major points of the dispute can be pinned down by the May 11 deadline for submitting the board's report to President Kennedy.

OFPA Names V. Bousquet

COTTAGE GROVE (UPI) — Plans for the closure of Oregon forests this summer have been backed by the Oregon Forest Protection Association at its meeting here.

The association warned that debris left from the Columbus Day storm poses an "explosive" fire threat to the state's forests. It urged landowners and forest protection agencies to get together now and draw up plans for summer closures.

The group also asked the public to cooperate by observing closures and exercising extreme care when entering open forest areas.

George H. Schroeder, an official of Crown Zellerbach Corp., was reelected president of the association. Vincent W. Bousquet of Weyerhaeuser Co. at Klamath Falls and Lincoln County lumberman W. S. Oudekirk were elected vice presidents.

Woman Found Stabbed In Bed

VANCOUVER, Wash. (UPI) — The body of Lyla M. Brasmer, 37, was found in the bedroom of her suburban home late Thursday. She apparently had been stabbed to death.

Clark County Sheriff Clarence McKay said the body was discovered by the woman's husband, Albert Brasmer, when he returned home from work.

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Bunco Squad Opens Bad Check Classes

A group of key local merchants met yesterday with the Klamath County Bunco Squad for a preview of a "check seminar" to be held next Thursday, May 9, in the hearing room of the Klamath County Court.

The check school, sponsored by the district attorney's office, is designed for employees of businesses who are charged with the responsibility of accepting checks from patrons and is to be given during two identical sessions of three hours each.

The first session will begin at 9 a.m., followed by the second at 7 p.m. The school is designed to reduce the losses incurred by businesses through the cashing of worthless checks and to make the prosecution of check passers more certain, the district attorney's office reported.

Instructors of the course will include Clair Alderson, Oregon State Police Identification Bureau at Salem; Jim Benbrook, Federal Bureau of Investigation at Portland; Dale Crabtree, district attorney of Klamath County; Dennis Lilly, detective sergeant of the Klamath Falls Police Department, and a representative of a banking institution.

Attending the preview yesterday were Thomas Owen, Jackson County district attorney's office; Keith Gildesgard, Medford Police Department; Warren Paul, Jackson County sheriff's office, and Charles Howard, Klamath Falls police chief.

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Kennedy Forces Hunt Votes To Up National Debt Ceiling

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Administration forces began today to line up votes needed to raise the ceiling on the national debt to a record 309 billion.

Although the outcome of the vote Thursday probably will be close, some new debt limit legislation is certain to pass. If the debt limit is not raised, the government would soon have to stop paying its bills.

The debt now stands at \$302.6 billion and is rising. Under existing law, the temporary legal limit next month will drop well below the present size of the debt.

If the House approves the measure, the ceiling would be boosted to \$307 billion through June 30 and raise it during July and August to \$309 billion. That would give the Treasury borrowing authority it said is needed to accommodate red-ink spending immediately in prospect.

Other congressional news:
Education: Congress may be asked this year to provide \$13 million to a proposed solution of the bitter church-state dispute over federal aid to schools. Chairman Adam C. Powell, D-N.Y., of the House Education and Labor Committee is preparing a bill to permit federal help in building classrooms for science, mathematics and foreign language instruction of public, private and parochial school students alike. He said this "shared time" concept already was in successful operation in a number of areas, notably Allegheny County (Pittsburgh, Pa.) and in Connecticut.

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WEDDING COST \$1,850
LONDON (UPI) — Prime Minister Harold Macmillan said Thursday that Princess Alexandra's wedding at Westminster Abbey last week cost the British government \$1,850 — most of which was spent on decorations of the Mall on the route of the wedding procession.

Macmillan gave the figure in response to a question in the House of Commons from Labor MP Richard Marsh.

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