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Former Decatur Man Is Back From Hawaii

Leon Yager Served As Red Cross Head

Home from Hawaii after serving two and a half years as an American Red Cross field director at Pearl Harbor, H. Leon Yager, formerly of Kirkland township and this city, knows the problems of the serviceman far from home in strange surroundings.

Among the many men daily seeking aid was a marine who came to Yager much depressed. His mother had died and he thought that perhaps she had not been buried properly or prayed on his mind. Could the Red Cross see that a fitting memorial was placed on her grave?

Yager assured the boy he would see what could be done, and the marine outlined a modest plan for the planting of flowers. The field director then wired the hometown Red Cross chapter, stating the request and asking that a picture of the grave with its memorial be sent to the grave.

The request so touched one volunteer in the chapter that she took it upon herself to carry it out. She and her husband visited the grave and, with loving care, planted a garden, designed so that borders of varicolored flowers would be in bloom every season of the year. They took a picture of the lovely memorial and together with a letter describing the garden in detail, sent it to Yager for the youth.

See Pearl Harbor Horror

When the Japs struck at Pearl Harbor Yager and his wife watched the foreign planes fly over. For a short time only, the island was in a state of wonderment. Rumor had it that an army-navy maneuver was in progress. Then they saw the flashes of anti-aircraft smoke. The planes shied off, and became loose as the bombs fell. The radio, moments too late,



Fiji Islanders Fight With Allied Forces

Fijian Troops Are Deadly To Japanese

With United States Army Forces in the South Pacific, Mar. 7.—(UP)—Native Fiji Islanders have been fighting with Allied forces on Bougainville Island since last December. Officials disclose that the big six-footers are tough fighters. Already they have killed at least 125 Japs, and that isn't counting Japs killed by grenades.

VOLUNTEER WITNESS in the legislative bribery examination being conducted at Lansing, Mich., Maj. Charles F. Hemans, former University of Michigan regent and an admitted lobbyist, now in the Army, is pictured as he testified before Judge Leland W. Carr's hearing into charges of graft conspiracy involving 18 legislators and five businessmen. Hemans, exposing vote-buying and petty chiseling in the state legislature, named legislators he bribed at the 1939 session in connection with small loan bills. The ex-lobbyist later told newsmen that "I'm not a reformer. But there's a moral to this thing—and that is that we clean Lansing up and keep it clean." (International)

blazed forth the announcement that the island was under attack by the Japanese; the Rising Sun had been spotted on the planes.

Throughout the attack, Mr. Yager transported Red Cross medical supplies from an army medical depot to the makeshift hospital hurriedly set up. At first there was an appalling lack of materials to treat the wounded and dying.

Praises Red Cross

For the women of the Red Cross motor corps, Yager has the highest praise.

They were everywhere at once, transporting supplies, and evacuating maternity cases and others to points of comparative safety. Those women went during blackout into districts where even men trembled to go, without a thought of danger.

Yager, a graduate of the New York school of social work and Westchester county welfare, formerly social worker with the department, New York, is back in the state for reassignment with the Red Cross.

Twenty Years Ago Today

March 7—T. O. Reed, chaplain of the Ohio state prison, Columbus, Ohio, gives talk at Rotary.

Jury awards George Reichhart judgment for \$2,000 against the Pennsylvania railroad company.

Frederick G. Church's boy choir

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SAVE A BUNDLE A WEEK
Newspapers: Fold them flat (the way the paper is folded) and tie them in bundles about 12 inches high.

Magazines and Books: Tie them in bundles about 12 inches high.

Corrugated and Cardboard Boxes: Stack them out and tie them in bundles in a box or bundle so that it can be carried.

Wastebasket Paper: Cut off the ends of flat cartons and pack down in a box or bundle so that it can be carried.

U. S. Victory WASTE PAPER Campaign

Start saving your Waste Paper NOW for the next drive to be held soon.

Our Daily Democrat

NEW COAL UNLOAD

(Continued From Page 1)

rate which the coal is used, so it is taken directly to the sites at the municipal light and power plant.

Trouble Breaks Out In Medical Center

Springfield, Mo., Mar. 7.—(UP)—Trouble has broken out again at the medical center for federal prisoners in Springfield, Mo. And drastic disciplinary measures are promised for 100 inmates who smashed furniture, plumbing and windows in a riot last night.

The outbreak comes just a short time after a preliminary investigation of charges by prisoners that they have been subjected to brutalities.

Officials are investigating the possibility that the riot was preliminary to a planned mass prison break. The disturbance started when three prisoners overpowered their medical attendant, opened the doors of one unit in the building and released a score of other prisoners from their cells. As they dashed out, others broke furniture in their cells, ripped plumbing from the walls and smashed windows.

The prisoners were quieted when armed guards rushed to the building from Fort Wayne gives a concert at the Decatur M. E. church.

The Portland basketball tournament made a total profit of \$546. Decatur receives \$85, Geneva \$171, Hartford \$19, based on a number of tickets purchased.

The cases against men charged with bombings at Montpelier are set for March 31 at Hartford City.

The oil investigations continue and many prominent men are called before the state committee.

Start saving waste paper today—used boxes, cartons, newspapers, and magazines. Don't burn them. Turn them in—now!

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ERIE

BROADWAY NIGHTS

By AXEL STORM

Distributed by King Features, Inc.

NEW YORK—March came in like a lion, with wind howling in the crannies of the Rialto and snow turning to slush underfoot, but theatrically she was anything but leonine. The week's quota of three plays gave the theatregoer such insubstantial fare that it isn't likely any one of them will survive to see the month go out.

"Mrs. Kimball Presents," the first of the trio, folded after two performances. It was so bad that we can find nothing reasonably important to tell you about it except that not one critical voice was lifted in its favor.

"Thank You, Svoboda," which

we enjoyed enormously when we read it in the form of a novella in Story Magazine, where it was

called "You Can't Do That to Svoboda," failed miserably in its

stage presentation, despite the best efforts of a fine cast headed by Sam Jaffe, H. S. Kraft, who

wrote "Cafe Crown" a couple of

seasons ago for Mr. Jaffe, found

himself out of his depth with this

one. It's the story of a hotel port

er in a small Czechoslovak town

who's a sort of civilian Good

Soldier Schweik. He's as dumb

as a crafty Czech fox, and turns

Nazi beatings and imprisonment

to his own account. Sent to con

centration camp through a frame

up, he comes out to blow up the

bridge his framers had accused

him of plotting to destroy. The

charge was made to cover up a

bit of Nazi looting.

Svoboda was made to talk like

a sort of idiot. He was, in the

play, abysmally stupid and amaz

ingly keen by turns, which

robbed him of all the authenticity

he had on paper. Most of the

action took part off-stage, mak

ing the play slow and talky, and

most of the talk was pretty poor.

We doubt that "Svoboda" will

stay long at the Mansfield.

We can't hold out much hope

for "Bright Boy," but on the

other hand, ZaSu Pitts' "Rapi

shack Inn," which crosses up

all the rules of playwriting and

makes the senior play at Well

ley seem profound, is still run

ning. And so are a few more

we could name. It's anybody's

guess as to what the future

holds, with a theatrical season

so unpredictable that Miss Ruth

Gordon has been able to carry

"Over 21" through two months

of full houses, with tickets sell

ing eight weeks in advance. If

we had our choice between "Over

21" and "Svoboda," we'd choose

the latter, despite its obvious

weaknesses. But five will get

you fifty that "Svoboda" won't

be running this time next month,

and "Over 21" will. That's the

way we feel about it and if you

want to make anything of it

come out in the alley. It doesn't

prevent us from wishing that

"Svoboda" and "Bright Boy"

had been better jobs. We wouldn't

like "Over 21" if we owned a

piece of it.

another suicide.

Meanwhile, the authorities also

see the full story concerning

state hospital fires at Toledo, O.

and Weston, Va., where Mrs. Ott

had worked and also at the Birds

eye, Ind., home where the couple

formerly lived. Ott collected

\$1,000 in insurance after the home

was destroyed.

Logansport, Ind., Mar. 7.—(UP)—The identity of the person who

started last year's Evansville state

hospital fire still is not known for

sure.

Mrs. Aileen Ott, accused by her

husband of setting fire which

now says that he touched off the \$2,

000,000 fire which killed eight per

sons. She charged the action to